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SUPREME SOVIET APPEALS TO CONGRESS ON NUCLEAR TESTS

PM191630 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 1

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Appeal to the U.S. Congress" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] Esteemed members of the U.S. Congress!

On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet, its Presidium considers it its duty to appeal to you on a question of exceptional importance -- the immediate ending of nuclear weapon tests.

M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has received an appeal from the leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden, and Greece. They recall that at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva determination was expressed to achieve the speediest results at the talks on nuclear and space arms. The message also expresses the healthy proposal that the USSR and the United States refrain from any nuclear tests until the next summit meeting.

We know that President R. Reagan also received a similar appeal.

In his reply M.S. Gorbachev noted that the Soviet Union will not carry out nuclear tests even after 31 March -- until the first nuclear explosion in the United States.

The Soviet Union has thereby acceded to the view of the six countries. This means that seven states are now making an insistent appeal to the leadership of the United States to end nuclear weapon tests. Over 1 billion people live in these states on various continents. They are joined by all to whom peace is dear.

For more than 7 months now the Soviet Union has unilaterally not been conducting nuclear tests. During this time the United States has carried out seven officially announced nuclear explosions and is preparing an eighth for April. Thus, the entire world can see the fundamental difference in the two states' position.

Addressing the USSR and the United States, the leaders of the six countries stated: "You bear the main responsibility for safeguarding our survival." For its part the USSR is fully aware of this responsibility. It is prepared for talks on banning nuclear weapon tests on any basis -- bilateral, trilateral, or multilateral. It is now up to the United States.

The arguments of the opponents of a mutual moratorium on and complete cessation of nuclear tests, it is our conviction, do not withstand criticism.

They say, for example, that tests are necessary to verify [kontrol] the "reliability" of U.S. nuclear weapons. But in reality the tests are carried out for the purpose of modernizing these weapons, upgrading their combat and destructive properties, and creating [sozdaniye] new types, including for use in space. Thus, a stake is being made on seeking to ensure that the potential of mass destruction weapons continues to grow, although those which already exist could blow up mankind and cover the planet with the dust of the grave. They also state: Let us limit ourselves to elaborating [razrabotka] methods of verification [kontrol]. But what they propose verifying is not compliance with accords on ending tests, but the nuclear explosions which they want to continue.

We are convined that nuclear tests must be ended in the interests of all mankind. Moreover, the Soviet Union is prepared to go further. It has put forward a detailed stage-by-stage program for totally liberating mankind from nuclear weapons even before the end of this century. All states, all parliaments, and all governments in the world have been notified of this program. It is also known to the U.S. Congress.

Of course, the Soviet Union, which is just as interested as the United States in the rigorous observance of accords, attaches great importance to verification [kontrol]. Scientists and specialists proved long ago that verification [kontrol] of the observance of agreements on ending nuclear tests and subsequent nuclear disarmament treaties can be ensured by national means and also with the help of international procedures -- and via on-site inspections, if necessary, to which the Soviet Union has given its consent.

The question of ending nuclear tests is today at the center of attention of the world's peoples. Politicians, public figures, parliamentarians, and eminent scientists in all countries, including famous U.S. scientists, point out the urgent need to put an end to nuclear weapon tests.

WE APPEAL TO CONGRESS TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN ITS POWER TO ENSURE THAT THE U.S. STANCE IS CONSONANT WITH CARRYING OUT THE TASK OF ENDING NUCLEAR TESTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WILL OF THE PEOPLES AND THEIR PASSIONATE DESIRE TO ENSURE LASTING PEACE ON EARTH. [Uppercase passage published in boldface]

It is incumbent on our two countries, which possess the largest stockpiles of nuclear weapons, to be the first to end tests of these weapons. Our two countries can and must vindicate the hopes for peace nurtured by all peoples.

The USSR is against nuclear explosions.

The USSR is against nuclear weapons altogether.

But now the first step must be a decision on the nonresumption of nuclear explosions by either the Soviet Union or the United States.

USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

TOLKUNOV INTERVIEWED ON PREVENTION OF WAR

AU131623 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 11 Mar 86 p 3

[Interview with Lev Tolkunov, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of the Union, by NOVOSTI commentator O. Trofimova: "NOVOSTI Especially for RZECZPOSPOLITA -- the Battle Against War" -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Trofimova] The Central Committee's Political Report to the 27th congress stressed that the CPSU sees the essence of its foreign policy strategy in an active participation in the battle against war. What are the conditions of this battle at its present stage?

[Tolkunov] Do you remember the warning from the congress rostrum? Nothing will be done by itself; it is necessry to fight for peace, to fight indefatigably with a view to reaching the goal.

The Communists do not delude themselves. The common home of all the inhabitants of this earth has now become too small and too fragile for waging wars and pursuing a policy of strength. It is easy to set off an explosion. The reason for increased tension and for a threat of war are not secrets stowed away in the bowels of the earth. Millions and millions of people living in various parts of our globe continue to realize more and more with each passing day that these reasons are rooted in the policy followed by Washington and some of its close allies who bank on achieving military superiority. The rightist forces believe that positions of military domination in the world constitute typical springboards that make it possible to accomplish a social tit for tat [rewanz spoleczny] and to impose systems favorable to themselves on other countries and peoples. Following the line of "nuclear rearmament" since the beginning of the eighties and seeking to realize the "star wars" program in the past few years, Washington actually continues to push mankind toward the chasm of a nuclear catastrophe.

The leadership of the CPSU and the USSR takes the view that in this new situation it is necessary to crucially change the ways of thinking and acting that have existed for centuries. It would be naive now to look for security through improving the effectiveness of the sword and the shield. In the era of nuclear missiles it is impossible to ensure security through weapons and military power. When experts continue to deliberate only on the question of how mankind can be annihilated many dozens of times over by means of the present stocks of nuclear weapons, it is high time to begin taking practical measures to abandon the policy of balancing on the brink of war and the policy of the balance of terror and to turn toward the normal civilized standards of mutual relations and between countries possessing different social systems.

As M.S. Gorbachev said at the congress, the crucial struggle will gain in intensity in the coming years precisely in connection with the real issues of the policy capable of preserving peace. This will be a complicated and multifaceted struggle because we have to deal with the people of a country whose leading circles refuse to soberly appraise the world's reality and prospects. (One more proof in this regard is provided by the U.S. President's reply to the most recent Soviet proposals -- a reply which is full of various reservations and "conditions" and which in fact blocks efforts to resolve basic disarmament issues). The decisive factors in this struggle are the balance of forces in the international arena, the increase and militancy of the forces of peace, and these forces' ability to effectively oppose the threat of nuclear war.

At present two closely related truths, of which everyone should be aware, top the list of important issues. They state that it is impossible to win the arms race or nuclear war as such and that no other choice can be made except cooperation among all countries. This means that objective conditions have been created in which the struggle between capitalism and socialism can take place only in the form of peaceful competition.

[Trofimova] What will be the main thrust of Soviet foreign policy in the coming years?

[Tolkunov] Offering peace to all countries and peoples, the CPSU continues to fight for it every day and every hour. The socialist countries are together with us in this struggle, and peace continues to be guarded by the Warsaw Pact, the members of which are linked by common ideals of Marxism-Leninism and common security interests.

The world of socialism does not appeal to bombs and missiles. It appeals to the reason of the people no matter where they live and what ideology they profess. This appeal continues to enjoy a warm response. This has also been the case with the historic proposals on completely eliminating nuclear weapons by the end of this century and on preventing militarization of space. These proposals were made by M.S. Gorbachev on 15 January 1986.

What is it that continues to attract people to this program? The best answer to this question is the words that the leader of the Soviet Communists used in his Political Report to characterize this program: It is a combination of a philosophy that believes in creating a secure world in the era of nuclear space with a platform of specific actions. The USSR proposes that disarmament issues should be approached in a comprehensive way and that a plan for specific and precisely scheduled actions should be taken into consideration in this connection. The main task of the USSR and its socialist allies is to seek to have this plan fulfilled.

This idea was also expressed by the leaders of the fraternal parties and countries when they spoke in the Kremlin. We must not waste the historic opportunity provided by the Soviet program, the opportunity to completely free our world from nuclear weapons, Comrade Erich Honecker said.... That today Leninist foreign policy continues to provide real opportunities to ensure international security is of tremendous significance for mankind in the future, Comrade Gustav Husak said.... The peace offensive of the USSR and the countries of the socialist community continue to gain in strength, Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski said. The importance of the worldwide forces of peace and progress continues to increase.

Today, it was stressed at the congress, it is more than ever important to find ways of closer cooperation with the governments, parties, and social organizations and movements that are really interested in peace on earth. Only joint efforts will enable us to create a comprehensive system of international security. The leader of the Soviet Communists has proposed a logical structural scheme for such a system involving military, political, economic, and humanist areas. The assumptions in this connection fully correlate with the specific initiatives of socialism in foreign policy.

[Trofimova] There is no doubt that the voice of peaceful forces taking part in the great antiwar struggle is sounding louder and louder. An important role may be played here by parliaments and parliamentarians from various countries. What is being done in this direction?

[Tolkunov] We have noticed in recent years that in a series of Western countries, parliaments are participating more energetically in talks on foreign policy matters. The halls of parliaments are echoing with the voices of people demanding an end to the material and ideological preparation for a new war. Thus, the idea of a nuclear freeze, supported by broad sections of American society, possesses many adherents in the U.S. Congress. The FRG Bundestag has discussed an SPD [Social Democratic Party] motion concerning a purely peaceful use of space, which is also being supported by the "Greens" party. There is a powerful opposition inside the Netherlands parliament toward plans to deploy American cruise missiles in that country. One can mention more examples like this.

The noble aims of consolidating peace lie unchangingly at the roots of the multilateral activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet and its Presidium, and of the USSR parliamentary group in the international arena.

Among the documents that have been approved by the Soviet parliament recently, I wish to mention two. The first of these is the resolution "On the Results of the Soviet-U.S. Summit in Geneva and on the International Situation," adopted by M.S. Gorbachev at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet session. The second document is the message to the U.S. Congress containing an appeal to support Moscow's program for total and universal elimination of nuclear weapons and a proposal for a bilateral Soviet-U.S. moratorium on all kinds of explosions as the first step in this direction.

In the new version of the CPSU Program, the party proclaims a line aimed at consolidating the international relations of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, which includes developing contacts between their legislative bodies.

The USSR Supreme Soviet is devoting particular attention to the expansion of contacts and exchange of experience with the supreme bodies of authority in the fraternal countries. Periodic meetings between the chairmen of parliamentary groups have become a good tradition. In May of last year, the parliaments of the Warsaw Pact member-states called on the parliaments of Europe and the world to participate in a partnerlike way in the struggle against the danger of nuclear annihilation. Their work schedule is also rich with various undertakings this year, which has been declared International Peace Year by the United Nations.

[Trofimova] You are also chairman of the influential Soviet Committee for Security and Cooperation. How do you view this committee's work since the CPSU congress?

[Tolkunov] The committee will continue to work but with 10 times the energy, mobilizing Soviet society to join the struggle against the nuclear threat in Europe. We are guided by the principle established at the 27th CPSU Congress whereby Europe's future involves peaceful cooperation between its states. It is important to preserve the capital we have accumulated and at the same time move forward -- toward mature detente and permanent security based on the process that was started in Helsinki.

The words of M.S. Gorbachev may become a slogan for our work: We must by all means achieve success in the struggle against war, a success that will be a historic victory for all mankind and every person on earth.

BEGLOV CONTRASTS USSR, U.S. ARMS CURB STANCES

PM201004 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Mar 86 First Edition p 1

[Spartak Beglov "International Review": "Position of Reason and Conscience"]

[Excerpt] In the 27th CPSU Congress documents the Soviet approach to the security problem is raised to a new level of realism taking into consideration the requirements of a modern world abounding with dangers and contradictions. By virtue of the dialectical law on the unity and struggle of opposites, the world has become an interconnected and largely integrated system. As for the nuclear danger, it has equated states in one respect, irrespective of the differences between them: In a big war nobody can stand to one side or benefit from other people's misfortune. If we are talking about the USSR and the United States, security can only be reciprocal, whereas for the world as a whole it can only be universal. Lack of security for one means insecurity for all. And this means that not only nuclear war but also preparations for one -- that is, the arms race and an aspiration for military superiority -- cannot objectively provide political benefits for anybody. Thus, safeguarding security is increasingly a political task which can only be carried out by political means.

Has this voice of reason reached the centers of political power in the West?

Last Wednesday the White House again disappointed the public. The U.S. position on the question of nuclear tests, it noted, has not changed, since the United States continues to gamble on nuclear weapons as "an important element of deterrence for the foreseeable future." However the very next day the world turned its gaze toward the capitals of the two powers with new hope. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary's reply to the appeal from the leaders of six countries -- Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania -- who urged Moscow and Washington to refrain from nuclear tests until the projected Soviet-U.S. summit meeting is held, was made public. Although the 8th month of the unilateral Soviet moratorium has passed without a reciprocal step by the other side, the Soviet reaction to the appeal from the "six" was nevertheless constructive: The Soviet Union will not conduct nuclear explosions even after 31 March--until the first nuclear explosion by the United States.

But what about Washington? A new deceptive maneuver was forthcoming, involving a "counterproposal" on the technical form of the procedure for on-site verification [proverka] and a repetition of the invitation to send observers from the USSR to nuclear tests in the United States.

Imperial arrogance and a course aimed at undermining peoples' sovereignty is the only way you can describe the program for direct U.S. interference in the affairs of Nicaragua and other states spelled out in President Reagan's 16 March television address and other statements by him on this subject.

A few days earlier we heard a U.S. Government demand for a reduction in the number of personnel of the permanent representations of the USSR and a number of other UN members at the New York headquarters of this international organization. In other words, yet another attempt has been made to dictate its will to the world community.

So what remains of the statements which the U.S. President made at the November summit concerning his readiness to make a real contribution to the cause of ending the arms race and averting a nuclear war? It is clear to everybody that the fate of the next Soviet-U.S. summit meeting depends to a considerable extent on the answer to this question.

When, 4 months after Geneva, the U.S. President starts to tell his compatriots with renewed force that the fate of every stage in negotiations with the USSR is determined by a new addition to U.S. military strength, reality and illusion enter into sharp contradiction with each other. To put it figuratively, a single escalator cannot operate in opposite directions -- up and down -- at the same time.

News has come in from the United States that public debates on the theme "A Strong National Defense and Arms Reduction: Are They Compatible?" were held at Harvard University's J.F. Kennedy School last Friday. U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger's speech was again in the vein of "the logic of the absurd": In order to promote the cause of arms reduction... it is necessary to continue to arm(!). Senator Edward Kennedy rejected these assertions, including the fairytale that the USSR returned to the negotiating table only because the United States "has become strong." In practice it was precisely the U.S. Administration that was compelled to agree to this under the pressure of circumstances and public opinion in the United States and other countries. The senator showed on the basis of facts that the USSR has found the requisite response whenever the American side has opted for a new spiral of the arms race. The same will also happen with SDI. This program will lead to futile expenditures of money and resources.

"Even now, of course," M.S. Gorbachev noted in his speech at the final session of the congress, "aggressive forces would prefer to freeze in and perpetuate confrontation. But what are we to do, comrades? Slam the door? It cannot be ruled out that this is precisely what we are being encouraged to do. But we are will aware of our responsibility for the fate of the country and the fate of peace. Therefore we do not intend to pander to those who would like mankind to live with the nuclear threat and the arms race."

The only choice which is acceptable for mankind has in fact been made already by the reason and conscience of all people of good will. It has been powerfully reinforced by the foreign policy strategy proclaimed by the 27th CPSU Congress on behalf of our entire 278 million-strong people. And the future lies with this policy.

PRAVDA REPORTS NEWS CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES

PM201114 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Terminate Nuclear Tests"]

[Text] A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists on current issues of international relations was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 18 March.

It was noted at the briefing that statements by many statesmen and politicians from various countries testify that the Soviet initiatives set out in M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January statement and in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress meet with the support of the broad international public. Statements by official spokesmen from the United States and its NATO allies are in evident discord with this. As before, leaders of Western powers, and primarily of the United States, are concentrating their efforts on seeking not ways to reach accords but arguments justifying the rejection of accords.

A few days ago the Soviet Union declared its readiness to refrain from nuclear tests even after 31 March -- until the first nuclear test in the United States -- and called for the start of talks on a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon tests.

And yet the U.S. President, in a recent statement, not only continued to insist that nuclear tests must be conducted, but even proposed to legalize them by the presence of Soviet representatives.

It is well known that the Central Committee Political Report to the party congress put forth the concept of an all-embracing system of international security. Confirmation of the need for joint efforts in the quest for ways to solve regional conflicts is an integral part of this concept.

The U.S. leadership reacted quite strangely to the submission of the Soviet concept of security. A few days ago the U.S. President sent to Congress a special message on questions of regional security in which he again attempted to find a moral justification and provide some kind of theoretical basis for the policy of unceremonious interference in the affairs of soverign countries and peoples. Nor did the U.S. President refrain from crude anti-Soviet attacks, camouflaging the policy of state terrorism and "neoglobalism" implemented by Washington.

A request was made for comment on the statement made by Britain's prime minister in Parliament to the effect that the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles would supposedly mean that "a certain number of missiles will be transferred to the Far East" and that these missiles -- or so it was claimed -- "can of course be redeployed."

This statement makes it evident, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted, that people in the West continue to make attempts to distort the essence of Soviet proposals. The January statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee says perfectly clearly that we are in favor of the complete elimination of USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone, both ballistic and cruise missiles, as a first step along the path of freeing Europe from nuclear weapons. Attempting to complicate the reaching of agreement, London is artifically raising questions of the military balance in Asia, whose practical solution is envisaged by the Soviet program at the appropriate stage. Thus, matters are being held up not by the Soviet stance but by the lack of political will on the part of the leaders of a number of Western countries to take the path of nuclear disarmament.

WARSAW PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS END MEETING

LD201213 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw March 20 TASS -- A regular meeting of the foreign ministers' committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries completed its deliberations here today.

During the meeting that passed in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely cooperation the sides exchanged views on the situation in Europe in the light of the over-all state of the international relations and prospects for their development.

Special attention was devoted to the study of measures directed at the practical realization of the proposals formulated in the statement passed by the conference of the Political Consultative Committee in Sofia in October 1985, the final document of the meeting of the leaders of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries in Prague in November 1985, and the subsequent peace initiatives of the allied countries, especially those set forth in the statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on January 15, 1986.

The meeting adopted a joint communique.

CEMA WORKING MEETING HELD IN MOSCOW 18-19 Mar

LD192031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1650 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In Moscow on 18 and 19 March a working meeting was held of permanent representatives of the CEMA countries. Taking part in the meeting were deputy heads of government Comrades Lukanov, of Bulgaria; Marjai, of Hungary; Tran Quynh, of Vietnam; Kleiber of the GDR; Esquivel, of Cuba; Peljee, of Mongolia; Gwiazda, of Poland; Totu, of Romania; Antonov, of the USSR; Rohlicek, of Czechoslovakia; and Sgchev, the secretary of the council.

Questions concerning CEMA work and further measures to implement the decisions of the economic summit of the CEMA countries, as well as the comprehensive program for the scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000 were discussed. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely cooperation.

CEMA MACHINE BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETS IN BUDAPEST

LD181349 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1110 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Budapest, 18 Mar (TASS) -- Today, the fourth sitting of the CEMA committee for cooperation in the field of machine building has begun here.

The plenary sitting, the MTI agency reports, was opened by Laszlo Marothy, member of the Politburo of the MSZMP Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic.

BOGOMOLOV ASSESSES WORLD SOCIALISM'S PROSPECTS

PM181250 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Interview with Academician O. Bogomolov, director of the Institute of the Economy of the World Socialist System, by unidentified PRAVDA correspondents: "By the Force of Example" -- date and place not given]

[Text] In an interview with PRAVDA correspondents Academician O. Bogomolov, director of the Institute of the Economy of the World Socialist System, answered a number of questions linked with the development of the world socialist system.

Question: How can the world socialist system's role and place in the international community be described today in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions?

Answer: The congress drew fundamentally important conclusions from the generalization of the experience of socialism's development as an international phenomenon. World socialism today constitutes a large group of countries and peoples. It is a powerful international community uniting one-third of mankind and many countries and peoples following the path of the comprehensive uncovering of the intellectual and moral riches of man and society. A new way of life based on the principles of social justice has emerged. Its distinguishing features are collectivism and comradely mutual assistance, the triumph of the ideas of freedom, the indissoluble unity of the rights and obligations of every member of society, dignity of the individual, and real humanism. The world of socialism possesses a major production, scientific, technical, and defense potential. It does not as yet hold the dominant position in world production and world trade but has an advantage in the dynamics of development in comparison with capitalism. In the last 5 years the volume of industrial production in the socialist world has increased 30 percent, whereas the figure for the industrially developed capitalist states is 10 percent.

As the new edition of the CPSU Program states, the establishment of military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO was a historic achievement for socialism. This has strengthened the position of the USSR, the other socialist countries, and all progressive forces in the international arena and overturned aggressive imperialist forces' calculations of victory in a world nuclear war.

The 27th congress documents contain a realistic assessment of both the advantages and achievements of world socialism and also of the complex problems and contradictions that arise in its development. Drawing lessons from collective experience, the CPSU Program spells out the general natural laws governing the building of the new society. It should be noted that, irrespective of the complexities and no matter how diverse and difficult the path of the establishment of world socialism has been, one thing is indisputable: The new social system makes it possible to solve urgent problems of the age on a collectivist and internationalist basis. This system possesses tremendous reserves for self-improvement and is intensifying its moral and material influence on the development of modern civilization.

Socialism's historic vocation is to avert war and protect mankind from a thermonuclear catastrophe. The socialist community -- the most authoritative force of the age -- is a firm bastion of peace in the world and the main obstacle in the path of imperialist reaction.

Question: What new arguments in socialism's favor in its historical competition with capitalism have emerged at the present stage of world development?

Answer: Today the whole of mankind is at a turning point in its history since its very fate and survival are at stake. Averting the threat of nuclear destruction has become the key question of the age. This is where the watershed lies between progress and the lethal abyss of war, between hope and despair. In their approach to this question of priority vital importance the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries display the greatest responsibility, a firm will to seek mutually acceptable solutions, political boldness and flexibility, and honesty and openness in their policy. The 27th congress provides the most convincing confirmation of this. The peace strategy and bold foreign policy initiatives of the USSR advanced by the congress constitute a weighty argument in favor of socialism in its historical competition with capitalism.

In encountering changed domestic and international conditions of its development and a new reproduction situation [vosproizvodstvennaya situatsiya] the socialist world has no intention of relinquishing its historical advantage in economic growth rates and in its ability to restructure economic and social relations in in conformity with the requirements of the present stage.

The Soviet Union has embarked on the implementation of the program approved by the 27th congress for the acceleration of its socioeconomic development, which will raise our society to a qualitatively higher level. Many socialist countries' stable development dynamism and bold plans for the future are impressive. What socialism is doing to exalt the working person, guarantee his social rights, and ensure his active participation in management -- in brief, to comprehensively realize the human personality -- is winning it the sympathies and support of millions of working people in capitalist countries and developing states. But the ultimate outcome of the economic competition with capitalism will be determined by socialism's achievements in increasing labor productivity and mastering the results of the scientific and technical revolution. The implementation of our plans through the year 2000, which envisage reaching leading positions in the world in terms of labor productivity and technical progress, and of the Comprehensive Program for the Scientific and Technical Progress of CEMA Countries Through the Year 2000 will be a most weighty argument in socialism's favor.

Question: Which important new tasks whose resolution is linked with seeking and overcoming contradictions and difficulties are being posed for world socialism by social development?

Answer: As past decades have shown, the development of world socialism is characterized by the existence of a number of natural laws and problems that are common to the countries concerned and at the same time by considerable diversity in the approach to solving these problems and differences in the historical stages reached in building the new society. For many socialist countries, primarily those in Europe, a task that has arisen with great insistence is that of transferring the economy to the tracks of primarily intensive development by accelerating scientific and technical progress, extensively applying its results in the economy, mobilizing all organization-economic and social reserves, and increasing social labor productivity. Life demands of these countries a considerable intensification of their economic cooperation by shifting the center of gravity here from trade exchange to production, scientific, and technical cooperation. In a word, it is a question of fundamental shifts in increasing the effectiveness of both domestic economic development and mutual economic cooperation. And this involves a creative search for new forms and mechanisms for the planned management of economic processes, new strategic approaches in scientific, technical, and structural policy, and the overcoming of inertia in thinking. Reciprocal study of economic management experience and the internationalization of proven forms and methods for solving urgent problems is highly beneficial here. Each socialist country makes its own contribution to uncovering the new system's potential more fully.

Question: Proceeding from international experience, what today is the vocation of the ruling communist and workers parties of the countries of the world socialist system?

Answer: As collective experience testifies, the role of the socialist countries' communist and workers parties is increasing substantially at the present stage of their development. We are convinced of socialism's ability to resolve its most complex tasks. Vital importance for this is attached to active collaboration, which has the effect of not only aggregating but multiplying our potentials and serves as a stimulus to the acceleration of social progress. The ruling communist and workers parties are the driving force of this comprehensive cooperation.

Question: What, in your view, are the prospects for the future shaping of mutual relations between the socialist countries given full observance of equality and mutual respect for national interests?

Answer: In mutual relations among the socialist countries in the long term their national-state interests and common international interests will be realized increasingly fully. This presupposes both the further development and strengthening of the democratic foundations of these relations and also consistent observance of the principles of socialist internationalism.

In improving the mechanisms and institutions of cooperation the socialist countries will continuously improve their mastery of the art of coordinating their interests and jointly resolving the economic and foreign policy tasks facing them.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEETING HELD IN MOSCOW

LD170434 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- The third information meeting-dialogue of Soviet political and public figures, prominent scientists and experts on disarmament problems with representatives of anti-war organizations and movements of Western Europe, the U.S. and Canada was held in Moscow on March 15 through 16. It was organized by the Soviet Peace Committee and the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. The meeting was attended by 120 representatives of 114 mass peace movements of various political and ideological outlooks.

They discussed in detail the Soviet program of nuclear disarmament by the year 2000 and the concept of all-embracing security set forth in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of January 15 and in the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th CPSU Congress, as well as the state and prospects of Soviet-American relations, questions connected with the consolidation of security and the prevention of the arms race in space.

Participants in the meeting emphasized in their reports that the package of new Soviet peace initiatives had met with a positive response on the part of all the true peace champions irrespective of their political and ideological convictions. Those initiatives promote the solution of a tangle of contradictions of the present-day world, open up a concrete prospect of liberating humanity from the burden of the arms race and give clear guidelines in the struggle for peace and security for all.

The meeting devoted much attention to the discussion of questions connected with cooperation of peace-minded forces, the consolidation of their unity in the struggle for the prevention of a thermonuclear war and of the militarization of space.

BELORUSSIAN SSR PROPOSAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS PASSED IN UN

LD141621 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva March 14 TASS -- The 42nd session of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, which is under way here, has passed a resolution without vote, as was proposed by the delegation of the Belorussian SSR, on measures that should be taken against all totalitarian or other ideologies and practices, including Nazi, fascist and neo-fascist, based on racial or ethnic exclusiveness or intolerance, hatred, terror. In the resolution it is noted that "in the present-day world there continue existing different forms of totalitarian ideologies and practices which entail disregard for the personality or denial of dignity and equality, inherent in all the people, and of equal opportunities in the civil, political, economic, social and cultural areas."

The U.N. Commission on Human Rights "expresses its determination to oppose all totalitarian ideologies and particularly their practices which deprive people of basic human rights, basic liberties and equal opportunities."

In the resolution there is the call upon all the states "to take the necessary steps with a view of a thorough investigation, search, arrest, extradition and punishment of all war criminals and persons guilty of having committed crimes against mankind who have not yet faced trial and have not been duly punished."

COMMENTATORS VIEW 'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION'

LD142353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 14 Mar 86

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program, introduced by Konstantin Patsyuk, All-Union Radio commentator; with Spartak Beglov, APN political observer; Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev, international affairs journalist; Nikolay Agayants, foreign political commentator of All-Union Radio; and Vladimir Bogachev, TASS observer on military affairs]

[Excerpts] [Patsyuk] Soviet people followed the proceedings of the 27th CPSU Congress with great interest. Meeting at a turning point in our country's history, the congress approved the concept of the acceleration of the USSR's social and economic development and reaffirmed the Soviet program for the elimination of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction on earth by the end of this century. Numerous letters, which we are currently receiving, express support for our party's domestic and foreign policies and satisfaction with the results of the congress' work. Our listeners Tamara Petrovna Barinova; the Gribanovs, husband and wife, from Moscow; Oleg Borisovich Dmitriyev from Rostov na Donu; and many others ask us to describe the impact made by the 27th CPSU Congress in the world. To accommodate their wishes, we have asked Spartak Ivanovich Beglov, APN political observer, to appear on our program. Spartak Ivanovich, how can one describe the overall world reaction to the proceedings and decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress?

[Beglov] Let me start by saying that even before the 27th CPSU Congress ended, the following thought emerged in the assessments of a whole number of international observers, including the foreign correspondents I met at the Moscow Press Center: There has perhaps not been in recent times a party congress like it in any country, attracting as it did by its content and its decisions such rapt and interested attention from the whole world. And it is clear why. It is not just because of the fact that it marks a watershed in the life of our people, who have set a course for qualitatively new reference points in the perfection of their society and the acceleration of its progress, but also because the foreign policy strategy worked out by the congress is notable for its high degree of realism; it reflects as fully as possible the conditions in which humanity exists, and sets tasks dictated by an age of great social revolutions and scientific-technical progress.

[Patsyuk] Our country's efforts on the international scene are focused on certain principal points, principal areas. What is the foundation, what is the nucleus, so to speak, of the congress' foreign policy platform?

[Beglov] The congress set out a clear, precise and well-constructed concept of peace and security in the nuclear age. Here are its main ideas. The world has become too small and fragile for wars and the policy of force. The combination of competition and historical confrontation between the two systems with the growing tendency toward an objective interdependence of the world community is the real dialectic of contemporary world development. The course of history demands with increasing insistence that close cooperation be established between states and peoples on a worldwide scale with a view to mastering the science and art of living in a state of proper international intercourse and cooperation. There can be no winners in either a nuclear war or in the arms race. The maintenance of security in the interests of the survival of mankind is a political task which must be carried out by political means. To implement this approach, the idea of creating an all-embracing system of international security was advanced at the congress. For the first time, international security is presented in terms of all its dimensions: military, political, economic, and humanitarian.

[Patsyuk] And how does the policy of the United States and NATO appear in the face of the Soviet concept of peace formulated at the 27th CPSU Congress?

[Beglov] The program which the Soviet Union has put forth for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the start of the 3d millenium was defined in the report of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee as the central thrust of the Soviet state's foreign political activities in the forthcoming years. The advancement of such a vitally important task has turned into a test of the willingness and sincerity of every government to joint actively in the cause of disarmament. Unfortunately, Washington's first official reaction to the Soviet proposals amounted to a whole cascade of assorted U.S. conditions and reservations standing in the path of specific practical steps toward nuclear disarmament. It is legitimate to ask whether the U.S. leadership has in practice managed to adapt its psychology and its approach to world affairs. Regrettably, we can observe once again a growing lacuna in the West between words and actions.

Remember the words to which the U.S. President put his signature at the Soviet-U.S. summit last November: They stated the impossiblity and inadmissibility of chasing after military superiority, and the priority of nuclear disarmament. The day after the opening of the congress in Moscow, the U.S. President found nothing better than to declare again that force is the most convincing argument that we have. Is this not a return to the old way of thinking, to the illusion that the more weapons there are, the more reliable security is, an illusion that has outlived its time? The politicians of the NATO countries have been bluntly faced with the question of whether they are at all prepared to give up nuclear weapons. The statements which are currently emanating from Washington, London and the other NATO capitals show that the leaders of these countries seem to have become so accustomed to nuclear weapons that in the face of the urgent steps on the path to a world without nuclear weapons, as proposed by the Soviet Union, they are not averse to repudiating their own assurances of their commitment to nuclear disarmament. But the moment of truth has arrived. In light of the ideas and proposals of the 27th congress, the true value of the policy of each of the partners in disarmament talks is emerging.

[Patsyuk] I am holding a number of letters whose authors condemn the policies of the U.S. Administration and its approach to our proposals. This is stated, in particular, by Comrade Khrushcheva from Novomoskovsk and Vladimir Dmitriyevich Petukhov from Leningrad. Comrade Petukhov says bluntly that it is difficult to believe that they, the imperialists, will opt for disarmament.

[Beglov] We do not close our eyes to the fact that the aggressive forces of imperialism are attemping to perpetuate confrontation and to give a boost to the arms race. But another tendency is irreversible. It is increasingly difficult for Western politicians to fail to reckon with the mood of the broad masses calling for disarmament. Throughout the world a powerful counterweight to militarist policies is growing: I refer to the enormous potential of world socialism, of the forces of national and social liberation, and of the mass democratic antiwar movements which have recently entered the arena. One must also mention here the still far from fully realized potential for common sense of a certain proportion of the ruling circles of the capitalist world. As is clear from what I have said, the CPSU's approach to problems of foreign policy combines a firm defense of the interests of the Soviet people and resolute opposition to the aggressive policies of imperialism with a willingness for dialogue and constructive tackling of international issues through talks.

The implementation of the party's foreign policy course will demand great work and effort. But we are certain that the future belongs to just such a policy.

[Patsyuk] And now some other letters from listeners. A number of letters deal with U.S. activities at the United Nations. Lidiya Vladimirovna Pobedinskaya from the town of Ivanovo, and the Mandrusovo family from Smolensk are interested in this.

Others, such as Nikolay Mikhaylovich Boyko, a resident of the town of Staraya Russa in Novgorod Oblast; Ivan Timofeyevich Pankov from Perm; and Antonina Nikolayevna Karateyeva, who lives in the town of Klimovsk in Moscow Oblast; ask bluntly on what basis the U.S. delegation enjoys the right of veto in the Security Council. We have replied to this question on numerous occasions. Nevertheless, more and more letters have come in, and that is why we are again returning to this subject which is of interest to you, comrades. The United States is not the only country that has the right of veto. Four other permanent members of the Security Council also have it: the USSR, Britain, China, and France. This right is guaranteed under the UN Charter. Official Washington, however, manifestly abuses it. It has effectively turned the veto into an instrument for sabotaging some of the most important decisions aimed at averting conflicts and maintaining peace. Judge for yourself: Since the beginning of the year, the U.S. delegation has used its veto three times, wrecking the adoption of resolutions condemning the, by now, totally unrestrained actions of the Israeli aggressors. The United States adopts the same position when it comes to considering the aggressive actions of South Africa with regard to neighboring African countries. Tel Aviv and Pretoria are thus encouraged to commit new crimes.

But it is not just in these matters that one can discern a divergence of views between the United States and other UN member-states. And it is not just in the Security Council, but also at sessions of the UN General Assembly. I would like to note here that the discrepancy is particularly striking in their approach to problems of disarmament. Thus at the last anniversary session of the UN General Assembly, the U.S. delegation supported only nine out of 49 resolutions; it voted "against" 27 times and abstained in 10 cases. These figures and facts very accurately reflect the changes which have taken place within the walls of the United Nations and Washington's loss of voting machines which were once obedient to it; this causes growing irritation in the White House. The constant attempts to discredit the fellowship of nations and to change the direction of the organization stem from this. In order to achieve these aims they stop at nothing in Washington, right up to the violation of international obligations.

The last such act has been the demand to cut by 40 percent the diplomatic personnel of permanent missions of the Soviet Union, the Ukraine and Belorussia at the United Nations. The international public has assessed this political step by the United States as hostile and illegal. The question is being asked with increased frequency in UN circles: Is a country which does not fulfill its obligations before the fellowship and which hinders the normal work of the United Nations a suitable one for the location of this organization?

[Patsyuk] In connection with recent events in the Philippines, our constant listener Comrade Davletbiyev from the mountain settlement of (Germencheg) in Babayurtskiy Rayon, Daghestan SSR; and Muscovite Tatyana Markova ask us to talk in greater detail about U.S. military bases on that archipelago. Over to my colleague, Nikolay Agayants.

[Agayants] Quite recently, in repelling meticulous journalists who were pressing him, U.S. President Ronald Reagan stated, and I quote, out of all the Pentagon's bases abroad the most important for us, from all points of view, are the bases on the Philippines. This admission is forced and very symptomatic, for it very accurately joins the concept now adopted by official Washington of neoglobalism, which, I will recall, declares practically almost all regions of our planet to be spheres of vital interest to the United States. From this comes the striving of Uncle Sam to increase his military presence in strategically important regions of the globe. If in 1933, U.S. troops were found on the territory of three foreign states; and in 1949, after the creation of NATO, in 39 countries; now they are deployed, roughly, within the limits of more than 110 states. According to official data about 2,500 U.S. bases and military installations are now accommodated on foreign soil.

Two gigantic bases such as Subic Bay and Clark Field in the Philippines are among them. The first serves as a deep-water moorage for warships and nuclear submarines of the U.S. 7th Pacific Fleet, and the second as a shelter for strategic bombers. All in all, more than 15,000 GI's and about 45,000 local inhabitants are working there. The direct proximity to the Asian Continent and to the most important marine communications undoubtedly give Subic Bay and Clark Field a special significance. It is understandable why the Pentagon brass hats get so hot under the collar about them. Long before the elections in the Philippines, forecasting the outcome, the U.S. journals NEWSWEEK and U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, without agreeing beforehand, unanimously wrote that in the event of Marcos winning, one could expect undesirable complications and perhaps even civil war in the country. These events would create enormous difficulties for the U.S. military presence in a strategically important region. Therefore, they linked their interests with the coming to power of representatives of the opposition. The stubborn unwillingness of the former Philippines president to voluntarily give up his post caused open displeasure in Washington. As a result, Marcos had to step aside and leave his state.

The new head of the Philippines, Corazon Aquino, stated that the previous agreement on leasing the Subic Bay and Clark Field bases would remain in force even after 1991, that is, after the term of the agreement expires. People in the Pentagon are extremely pleased at such an outcome, and now units of the Rapid Deployment Force, combat planes, and military equipment are being transferred from U.S. bases on the Philippine Islands to South Korea for participation in wide-scale maneuvers codenamed "Team Spirit-86." The progressive public of countries of the Far East is following with alarm how the United States is turning its bases on the Philippines more and more into a springboard for U.S. expansion on the whole Asian Continent and the Pacific Ocean region.

[Patsyuk] Comrade Ivanov from the town of Koryazhma in Archangel Oblast asks us to talk about the U.S. space shuttles. We asked Vladimir Ivanovich Bogachev, TASS observer on military questions, to answer this letter.

[Bogachev] To start with, a few words about the technical characteristics of the ship. Its chief peculiarity is that the shuttle is a reusable ship and is intended for 100 flights. After the Challenger catastrophe three ships of this series remain in the United States.

[Patsyuk] And now, what about the purpose of these ships.

[Bogachev] The space shuttle program occupies a large place in U.S. plans for "star wars," and in general nobody hides this. The reusable ships particularly have to fulfill tasks in carrying out reconnaissance and in intercepting the satellites of the other side. During the Challenger flight in 1983, the astronauts carried out corresponding tests, and with the help of a 15-meter long mechanical arm, they removed a U.S. satellite from orbit. It is also planned to use the ships for delivering military satellites and elements of strike space weapons into orbit. The possibilities of the ships as means for destroying space installations and as means for deploying [razmeshcheniye] space mines in near-earth space are being studied. The Pentagon's space caddies [izvozchiki] as the shuttle is called in America, can be adapted for inflicting strikes on especially important strategic targets on earth.

[Patsyuk] That is, in other words, these ships to a great extent will be carrying out military tasks, and with their help the United States is pursuing a quite definite aim. Is that not it, Vladimir Ivanovich?

[Bogachev] Yes, quite right, Konstantin Nikolayevich. One of the shuttle commanders, U.S. Air Force Colonel Jack Lousma, stated straightforwardly: Space is a place from which the whole world can be held in fear.

U.S. observer Jack Anderson noted that with the help of the space shuttle program the United States intends to ensure its strategic superiority. But through an irony of fate, the shuttles which are called on to demonstrate the technical feasibility of the U.S. "star wars" program, have shown just how dangerous the militarization of space is to mankind. I am thinking of the Challenger catastrophe with the astronauts on board.

[Patsyuk] Our country, as we know, proposes a different space program.

[Bogachev] Yes. From the very beginning of the space era, the Soviet Union has spoken out and continues to speak out for the use of space only for peaceful aims. Our country has put forth a wide-scale program for its peaceful development. There is no room for weapons in space. Near-earth space should not become an arena for the arms race. In contrast to the United States, our country proposes "star peace", not "star wars". The present flight of Soviet cosmonauts will become another contribution to the peaceful development of space. The remarkable achievements of the human mind should serve not the aims of the destruction of the world's civilization, but the aims of its progress.

WORLD LEADERS CONGRATULATE GORBACHEV ON ELECTION

PM170929 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Congratulations to Comrade M.S Gorbachev on His Election as CPSU Central Committee General Secretary"]

[Text] Comrade M.S. Gorbachev has received numerous telegrams and letters containing cordial congratulations on his election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee by the 27th CPSU Congress. They have been sent by the Communist Party Central Committees, Supreme Soviet presidiums, and Councils of Ministers of Union Republics, CPSU kraykoms and obkoms, other party and Soviet organs, trade union and Komsomol organizations, public organizations, party and Great Patriotic War veterans, labor veterans, labor collectives, figures in science and culture, Soviet Army and Navy servicemen, and individual Soviet citizens and they express wishes for great success in his activity in the post of CPSU Central Committee general secretary.

Telegrams with congratulations and wishes for success have been received from the following leaders of communist and workers parties and heads of state and government.

Congratulations have been sent by:

T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council;
J. Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP;
Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee;
E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State;
Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and president of the DPRK;
F. Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers;
Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers;
J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium;

W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State;
N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP Central Committee and president of Romania;
G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR;
V. Zarkovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium;
Heng Samrin, chairman of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean council of state;
K. Miyamoto, chairman of the Japanese Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee, and T. Fuwa, chairman of the JCP Central Committee Presidium;
L. van Geyt, president of the Belgian Communist Party;
M. o'Riordan, national chairman of the Communist Party of Ireland, and J. Stewart, general secretary;
N. Isa Conde, secretary general of the Dominican Communist Party Central Committee;
G. Ghiotti, secretary general of the San Marino Communist Party;
The Paraguayan Communist Party Central Committee;
S.J. Handal, secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party Central Committee;
A. Vassalo, secretary general of the Communist Party of Malta Central Committee;
A. Dansokho, secretary general of the Senegalese Independence and Labor Party Central Committee;
Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia;
S. Machel, president of the Mozambique Liberation Front and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique;
J. Bernardo Vieira, secretary general of the African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Central Committee and chairman of the Guinea-Bissau Council of State;
P. Vayrynen, chairman of the Finnish Center Party, and S. Kaariainen, general secretary;
Sean Garland, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ireland;
C.S. Aslam, president of the Pakistan Socialist Party,
R. Gandi, president of the Indian National Congress-Indira Party;
H. al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Parth and president of Syria;
Lansana Conte, president of the Republic of Guynea;
Colonel M. al-Qadhdhafi;
M. H. Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
A. al-Jumayyil, president of the Republic of Lebanon;
K. Kaunda, president of Zambia;
Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and chief of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania;
Congratulations were also sent by:
I. Zakariya, general secretary of the WFTU;
C. Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League;
P. Tanchev, secretary of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union.
Congratulations are continuing to arrive.

BLACK SEA INCIDENT MOTIVATED BY 'POLITICAL ENDS'

LD191211 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 19 TASS -- The violation of the Soviet state border by U.S. warships in the Black Sea off the southern coast of the Crimea on March 13 was a part of a major spying operation of the USA against the USSR, carried out with the full approval of the U.S. Administration, THE NEW YORK TIMES reports today, quoting Pentagon officials.

Those officials, who requested anonymity, admitted that one of the purposes of the operation was "to gather intelligence" about the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces.

To this end the Yorktown cruiser and the Caron destroyer were heavily equipped with electronic sensors and other electronic hardware to collect intelligence about "enemy" armed forces and armaments. In addition, the newspaper says, the Yorktown is equipped with an Aegis fire control system "that can track hostile planes, ships and submarines and can select, aim and fire the weapons best suited to destroy each target."

The Pentagon officials said that the act of provocation had been ordered by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the name of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. The plan of the operations, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, was also approved by the Department of State and the White House. In the way Washington has actually confirmed that the violation of the borders of sovereign states is a typical ploy used by the USA to collect intelligence.

What draws attention is the fact that the latest act of anti-Soviet provocation perpetrated by the U.S. Administration pursued both intelligence-gathering and political ends. The White House hoped to use it further to whip up militarist hysteria in the country and to secure Congressional approval for new U.S. arms buildup programs, envisoned by the U.S. draft federal budget for fiscal 1987. THE NEW YORK TIMES says: "In previous incidents in which the United States flexed its military muscle....the President's popularity jumped and his policies received new support in Congress."

It is not the first time that the U.S. Administration irresponsibly plays with the fate of peace in pursuit of its political objectives. In September 1983, for instance, the United States provoked in the Far East an incident with a South Korean plane, sent into Soviet air space on an intelligence-gathering mission, the incident was used by Washington, inter alia to justify in the eyes of the world public the deployment of hundreds of U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which added considerably to world tension. Now, perpetrating fresh dangerous acts of provocation, Washingtonis obviously seeking to "reconcile" the public with its plans further to escalate the arms race and to extend it into outer space.

FURTHER REPORT, COMMENT ON U.S. MANEUVERS OFF LIBYA

Fighters Fly Over Gulf of Sidra

LD192025 Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 19 TASS -- U.S. carrier-based fighters today began flights in the immediate vicinity of the Libyan coast in the Gulf of Sidra, UPI news agency reported. The fighters are taking off from the Coral Sea and the Saratoga. The aircraft-carrier America is also steaming towards Libyan shores.

3d Carrier in Mediterranean

LD200825 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 20 TASS -- The strike aircraft carrier America has entered the Mediterranean in order to take part in the new U.S. naval exercise started close to the Libyan coast. This has been reported by a spokesman of the Pentagon. Taking part in the naval exercises, the fourth in less than three months, are also the Saratoga and Coral Sea aircraft carriers which are in the Mediterranean today. Carrier-born planes are also taking an active part in the naval exercise. At present over 40 U.S. warships are concentrated off Libya's shores. Political observers of Arab countries describe this naval exercise as a demonstration of the U.S. military might unprecedented by its scope and regard it as a preparation for an armed provocation against Libya.

Pretext for 'Military Blow'

LD192101 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] New U.S. Navy maneuvers began today in the Mediterranean in the immediate vicinity of Libya's shores. This is the fourth U.S. military exercise in the last 3 months. Taking part will be aircraft carriers Saratoga and Coral Sea, which are presently in the Mediterranean, and also the aircraft carrier America, which will enter the waters of the Mediterranean in the next 2 days. Altogether, more than 40 warships of the U.S. Navy will take part in the maneuvers.

This demonstration of U.S. military power off the shores of Libya is unprecedented in its scale. Political observers of the Arab countries evaluate it as a direct preparation for armed aggression. Washington's aim is to provoke Libya and thus gain a pretext for inflicting a military blow against the country.

Moves Part of 'Neoglobalism'

LD191559 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- The Pentagon has officially announced the start of new U.S. naval exercises in direct proximity to the Libyan coast. The exercises, which will be the fourth ones within a period of about three months, will involve the aircraft carriers Saratoga and Coral Sea which are now in the Mediterannean, and also the aircraft carrier America which will enter the Mediterannean in the coming two days. A Pentagon spokesman has said that carrier-based aircraft of the America will be actively involved in the exercises from the very outset. With that aircraft carrier's arrival, more than 40 combatant ships of the U.S. Navy will be concentrated off the Libyan coast.

Political observers of Arab countries are describing the Pentagon's war-games beginning today as an unprecedented-in-scope show of U.S. military might and as a direct preparation of an armed provocation against Libya. It has become known to the U.S. CBS TV network that these exercises will go beyond the scope of "routine" ones. Washington's aim is to provoke Libya in order to get a pretext for the delivery of a military strike against facilities in Libyan territory.

With this end in view the Pentagon has planned out to stage a demonstrative "visit" by U.S. aircraft carriers to the Gulf of Sidra on Friday. CBS quotes one of U.S. official spokesmen that in the past there was only talk and that this time the naval force is fully prepared for action.

The U.S. Administration, infuriated with the anti-imperialist foreign policy course of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, repeatedly stated that it would "punish" Libya for its "support for terrorism". It turns out, as is being asserted in the White House, that Libya with its population of three million threatens U.S. "national interests" and that only for the purpose of "defending them" Washington has held neither more nor less than 18 military excercises off the Libyan shores in the past five years and applied economic sanctions against that Arab country. There is only one real cause of the USA's strong hostility with regard to Libya and it is accounted for by Washington's endeavours to make the Libyan leadership change the policy of counteracting the U.S. course of "neo-globalism" which pursues the aim of establishing U.S. imperialism's world domination.

ACTING SOVIET UN REPRESENTATIVE VIEWS STAFF CUT

PM191209 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Mar 86 p 9

[Interview with Ambassador V.S. Safronchuk, acting USSR permanent representative to the United Nations, by APN and TASS correspondent Vladimir Simonov in New York: "A Step Back from Geneva" -- date not given; first three paragraphs are Simonov introduction]

[Text] New York -- The Soviet Union proposed to America that we enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons, that we disarm by stages over 15 years.

The American answer was vague. We waited for Washington's intentions to emerge more definitely. They appeared to do so. The U.S. Administration put its own program on the table. For disarmament? No, for complicating the situation. The American authorities demanded a reduction in the number of employees at the USSR's permanent mission to the United Nations, by nearly one-half. Also, incidentally, by stages.

To help LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's readers to get to the bottom of this challenge, I interviewed the man who is at the center of events today -- Ambassador V.S. Safronchuk, acting permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations.

[Simonov] How did all this come about, Vasiliy Stepanovich? How do the Americans justify their claim to decide for us how many people should work at the Soviet mission?

[Safronchuk] Herbert Okun, U.S. deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, came to us and handed over a note. Every line consisted of groundless, unsubstantiated assertions. They say we have too many staff, and that they are doing things they are not supposed to be doing. These numbers of staff are supposedly "not necessary for UN needs..."

We were not merely surprised at this note -- we were dumbfounded. It seems to have been written by people who have not read the documents signed by our countries' leaders in Geneva. I immediately told Mr Okun that this is an unlawful step on America's part, or, to be more precise, it is completely arbitrary. I had to draw his attention to the fact that this act is directly contrary to the spirit of Geneva.

[Simonov] It is curious that some Americans now seem to be pretending that Geneva is somewhere on another planet. Charles Redman, a State Department official, said in so many words: "The size of missions to the United Nations has nothing to do with American-Soviet relations. We do not understand why this act should hamper American-Soviet relations."

[Safronchuk] No, we do not agree with arguments like that. It not only hampers, it directly undermines the legacy of Geneva and contradicts what was agreed on there with such difficulty. The U.S. step cannot fail to complicate future relations between our countries and the development of contacts and ties. In short, it is sabotaging the results of Geneva. The State Department knows now that we reject its so-called "arguments."

[Simonov] Have you noticed how eagerly the newspapers here are juggling with the figures now? They say: "Your Soviet mission has such-and-such a number of people, but the U.S. mission has fewer"...

[Safronchuk] There is no logic in such comparisons. You cannot compare the USSR's mission with the U.S. mission, which is working at hone. They have Washington, the State Department, and private firms close at hand. I told H. Okun: "You can double or treble the size of your mission in a day, and you do, when the need arises." The Soviet mission is not lucky enough to have this opportunity. That is the first thing. The second thing isthat all our mission's activity is carried out by Soviet personnel alone. Because of elementary security considerations, we cannot rely on the service of New York firms. And, last, there is another decisive argument. The Americans say: "The size of the USSR's mission has grown disproportionately to the work done by its staff." That is not true. Our mission has indeed increased over the last 2 decades, but over the same period the number of UN members has trebled. And the number of UN organs operating in the intervals between General Assembly sessions and Security Council sessions has more than doubled.

[Simonov] What is the attitude of the UN leadership and the secretary general toward the U.S. act?

[Safronchuk] In UN circles, the news was received with great disquiet and condemnation. The secretary general immediately asked the opinion of his legal adviser. The expert's conclusion was totally unambivalent: The U.S. act violates the 1947 agreement on the UN central agencies, and is also contrary to the 1975 Vienna convention on states' relations with international organizations.

[Simonov conclusion] Thanking my interviewee, I emerged onto the street and bought the evening edition of THE NEW YORK TIMES. Richard Gardner, professor at Colombia University and formerly deputy assistant U.S. secretary of state for international affairs, asked this interesting question: How would the United States be feeling now if the Swiss had started dictating to us how big our delegation to the Geneva disarmament talks should be?"

CRITICISM OF U.S. NICARAGUAN POLICY CONTINUES

Kobysh Comments

PM181421 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Mar 86 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh "Observer's Opinion:" "An Undoubtedly Lost Cause"]

[Text] A mortal threat hangs over the United States; at any moment it could be sugjected to armed aggression with terrible consequences...

What is this: The "Soviet military threat" *again*? "The Russians are coming" again?

No, this time the United States faces the prospect of an attack from... peaceful little Nicaragua. I am not joking, nor am I exaggerating. If you will forgive me for putting it in such strong terms, this schizophrenic campaign to intimidate the Americans with the "Nicaraguan threat" has been unleashed in recent days by the leaders of the Washington Administration. "Nicaragua is a country that finds itself in the clutches of a cruel clique of fanatical communists who have waged war on God and man since their very first days," the U.S. President said, to frighten his fellow citizens, in his latest Saturday **radio broadcast** on 8 March. "Communist Nicaragua puts our national security in jeopardy, threatens our communications in the Caribbean, and, even worse, intends to subjugate the Central American countries to communist domination one after another; that is a sinister prospect..."

What is happening, why this paranoia? The point is that members of the U.S. Congress are refusing to support President R. Reagan's proposal to grant "aid" worth $100 million to the "contras," yesterday's minions of the criminal Somoza and today the hirelings of the CIA and other U.S. special services.

For the CIA, $100 million is nothing, it could easily be sent in through the "special operations" channel which nobody controls, and even bigger sums are sent in when required. The problem is this: The majority of congressmen and nearly all ordinary American citizens who are at all well informed consider the present administration's course with regard to Nicaragua and Central America in general to be fatal to the United States. Many of them, not without reason, regard this policy as an exact repetition of the U.S. actions which led to the Vietnam war. And the tragedy, shame, and horror of Vietnam have not gone away and will doubtless not go away for a long time from the Americans' memories.

And now we have the same kind of escalation of lies about Nicaragua as there was before the Vietnam adventure. The Americans are shamelessly deceived about a country where for 43 years Washington kept the Somoza family dictatorship in power -- probably the most cruel, bloody, and corrupt dictatorship in the history of Latin America. For 43 years the river of Nicaraguan blood flowed; under American leadership, the Nicaraguans were mocked and shamelessly plundered at will. Nothing has been forgotten. When that country's people rose up against the tyrant, Washington tried at all costs to keep him in power and save his regime; under the leadership of U.S. instructors, a torrent of violence rained down on the Nicaraguans and systematic mass killings began in the country.

The people of Nicaragua swept away the bloody, corrupt puppet Somoza, just as the people of Cuba before them had thrown out the dictatorship of another loyal friend of Washington's -- Batista, and just as the people of Haiti recently freed themselves from the oppression of yet another American placeman -- Duvalier. And then the Washington Administration virtually declared war on the Sandinist people's regime in Nicaragua: On the one hand, they want to starve the country into submission, and on the other they want to subdue it with the violence of the "contras," killers who were in Somoza's own service. Under Somoza and without him, they kill Nicaraguans with American weapons and with the help of American instructors. Many Americans feel frankly sick at the high morality of the administration's course with regard to Nicaragua. Equal repugnance is aroused among them -- and that includes the decent people among American congressmen -- by the truly McCarthyist methods to which R. Reagan and his associates now resort in the attempt to twist the arms of all those who do not agree with piratical, terrorist actions against Nicaragua. The White House calls such people "Reds," and even "traitors to national interests."

P. Buchanan, one of R. Reagan's closest advisers in the White House, stated frankly, in connection with the forthcoming vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on 19 March about allocating $100 million to the "contras": "It will show whether Congress is with Ronald Reagan or with Daniel Ortega (the Nicaraguan president - V.K.) and the communists."

Why does the present administration attach such great signficiance to this vote? R. Reagan and those who think like him would like to use the official appropriation by Congress of these millions of dollars in aid to the "contras" as "carte blanche" for any actions in relations to Nicaragua and other states fighting for their independence. In other words, they would like to be given the "go-ahead" for the implementation of the entire imperialist doctrine of "neoglobalism."

Thus the vote affects many peoples in Central America and southern Africa, the Middle East, and Afghanistan. When this issue of the newspaper comes out, the results of the vote will evidently already be known. Regardless of its results, I may say that R. Reagan's administration has failed with its course on Nicaragua. It has taken up an undoubtedly lost cause: You cannot stop the people's struggle for their freedom and for the right to a life of dignity with the help of killers.

PRAVDA Cited

LD160801 Moscow TASS in English 0745 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- Voting at the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress on American military aid to Nicaraguan rebels, known as "contras", worth 100 million dollars, as requested by President Reagan, has been slated for March 19. The newspaper PRAVDA, commenting on the move in its International Review, writes:

Ronald Reagan publicly described the Nicaraguan "contras" as "freedom-fighters," and George Shultz as "good guys" -- this about people, many of whom were officers and soldiers in the National Guard of Somoza who had robbed the country for 45 years.

Now the U.S. Administration cynically declares that "contras" are a model of respect for human rights.

Washington does not limit itself to mere praise for the "contras", the newspaper observes. Tensions are kept hight on the Nicaraguan borders. Following the provocative manoeuvres recently conducted by the U.S. Navy off the Nicaraguan coasts, a new series of exercises is being started near the country's land borders with the participation of American and Honduran Armed Forces.

Washington demonstrates its arrogant force in all continents now. In Central America -- it is Nicaragua. In Africa -- it is Angola, where UNITA bandits, whose chieftain was recently feted in the White House, commit atrocities. In Asia -- it is Afghanistan, whose inhabitants are terrorised by killings and sabotage by the dushmans armed in Pakistan on American money.

Wherever counterrevolution is raising its head, PRAVDA concludes, look for American imperialism.

U.S. TRIES TO INVOLVE CANADA IN SDI THROUGH NORAD

LD191925 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The U.S.-Canadian agreement on NORAD, North American Air Defence Command, will be extended again for another five years in a ceremony in Washington today, following talks in the White House between President Reagan and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. It follows from reports of the U.S. press that the Washington Administration seeks to use the NORAD structure to involve Canada in direct participation in the "star wars" program, named for a camouflage "the Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI).

During a meeting with Mulroney in Quebec in March last year, President Reagan suggested that Canada should join in the plans for research and creation of an ABM system with space-based elements.

The majority of the Canadian public declared resolutely against Reagan's proposal. Taking into consideration the attitudes in the country, the Mulroney government declared in September last that the national policy and priority tasks of the country do not allow for Canada's participation at a governmental level in research under SDI program. True, a loophole has been left; private companies were not prohibited to participate in those programs.

Bypassing Ottawa's official stand, the U.S. Administration then started drawing its northern neighbour in the "star wars" plans through NORAD. The GLOBE AND MAIL newspaper writes that the U.S. Government tries to involve Canada in the so-called long range planning of the future space and anti-missile defence systems in the framework of the North American Air Defence Command.

NORAD itself has been included by the Pentagon among the most important components of the SDI and is viewed as one of the most essential links of the program of "star wars" preparation.

As to the agreement on NORAD, it contains a loophole by means of which the Pentagon intends to involve Ottawa in "star wars". The clause demanding that NORAD's tasks and aims be necessarily in keeping with the ABM Treaty was dropped from the agreement back in 1981. The Canadian side would like that clause to be restored, but they in Washington have a different opinion to this effect. According to a UPI report, at the present talks in Washington Canada insisted again that the NORAD agreement that is being extended should contain an article precluding Canada's participation in an active system of ABM defence. The White House has rejected Ottawa's wish.

Practice shows that they in Washington have very little consideration for the views and stand of the United States' northern neighbour in such an important matter as national security and are guided exclusively by the United States hegemonistic designs.

TASS CITES U.S. PAPERS DETAILING SDI CONTRACTS

LD181847 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] San Francisco March 18 TASS -- The MERCURY NEWS newspaper reported that the Lockheed Corporation had secured a contract to the sum of 30 million dollars to develop guidance systems for offensive armaments in the framework of the star wars programme.

There are also plans for the production of laser units that could be used against targets in space and on the ground. According to the newspaper, the units will be tested during new flights under the "space shuttle" programme.

According to the information of the AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY journal, the Pentagon intends to conclude in the current year over 500 contracts for the development and creation of different components of space arms under the star wars programme. Another 150 orders are to be placed among medium and small corporations of the military-industrial complex in 1987. The Pentagon intends to spend on these contracts 17 billion dollars by 1989.

But this is just the visible tip of the "iceberg" of the appropriations for star wars preparation. TIME magazine notes, specifically, that the number of top secret programmes of the Pentagon is rapidly increasing. Not even congressmen are informed about the content and purpose of those programmes, when they vote on military appropriations. The volume of funds allocated for such programmes increased almost ten-fold in the past six years and will reach 8.6 billion dollars in the next fiscal year.

American observers note that alongside programmes of the so-called modernisation of nuclear potential the present U.S. Administration pays much attention to work to create a large-scale ABM system with space-basing elements. As the ASSOCIATED PRESS reported, this policy is sealed in a special directive of Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger of December 31, 1985, on the build up of the U.S. forces in 1988-1993. It is said in the directive that the Pentagon attaches the same priority importance to the star wars preparation as to the programmes of the build up of the United States strategic nuclear potential.

U.S. SEEKS TO USE PAKISTAN AS 'TOOL' OF POLICY

LD191349 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The visit to the Pakistani port of Karachi of a group of ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, consisting of the atomic-powered aircraft-carrier Enterprise, two missile cruisers, a nuclear-powered submarine and two destroyers, that is ending today is fresh evidence of the escalation of U.S. military activity in the Indian Ocean. It is the first call of such a large U.S. naval grouping at Pakistani ports in the history of the country. Previously, the Pakistani authorities withheld consent to such calls. U.S. ships did not visit Pakistani ports even when the country was a member of the SEATO and CENTO military blocs. So the call at Karachi is not just a manifestation of Washington's growing military contacts with Islamabad but also extra proof of the U.S. desire to use Pakistan more extensively as a tool of Washington's neoglobalist policy in South and Southwest Asia.

The U.S. ships which called at Karachi carried, in addition to their regular crews, 4,500 Marines from the "Rapid Deployment Force." The Pentagon is strenuously building up the "muscle" of that force, set up to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states and constituting an important element of U.S. global strategy.

The Washington Administration is going ahead with an ambitious program to modernize and expand the system of bases for the "Rapid Deployment Force," on which, according to the American press, about two billion dollars has already been spent. The current visit of the U.S. naval grouping to Karachi is not routine, as Washington and Islambad would like to make out. It is a test of readiness for the bases.

A triangle of strongholds for the "Rapid Deployment Force" is being developed in the Indian Ocean, its apex resting on Diego Garcia and its flanks spreading to Africa's eastern coast, on the one side, and to Pakistan and some Southeast Asian countries, on the other.

Pakistan is being cast in the mold of a staging area for the deployment of that force in the region. Islamabad has already consented to the use of some Pakistani air fields by American planes "under emergency circumstances." Now the turn of Pakistani ports seems to have come.

There are carriers of nuclear weapons among the American ships at anchor in the Karachi port. This circumstance aggravates the danger posed by the visit to peace and security in the region. U.S. nuclear arms brandishing is sharply at odds with the idea of establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Indian Ocean, the idea the implementation of which is being blocked by Washington so stubbornly.

The Karachi population responded with mass protests to the call of the American ships. The posters reading "Yankees go home" and "Pakistan must not become an American base" graphically illustrated the nature of those protests. The opposition parties participating in the movement for the restoration of democracy have characterized the visit as violation of the principle of non-alignment, officially proclaimed by Islamabad, and direct complicity with Washington's neo-globalist doctrine.

U.S. MILITARY AID FUNDS 'INTERVENTIONIST' POLICY

LD191209 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy reporting.

Program of military aid to the American allies is one of the instruments with the help of which the Reagan administration is going to realize its interventionist doctrine of "neoglobalism." This idea is confirmed by the speech made by William Schneider, U.S. under secretary of state for security assistance, science and technology, in Congress.

He made it plain that military aid to other states is an important addition to the funds spent by the United States on its Armed Forces. His further remarks left no slightest doubt that the biggest arms supplies from Washington go to politically-volatile regions of the world which it regards as convenient places for staging aggressive adventures.

In Schneider's words, the U.S. Administration is going to channel more than half of the funds earmarked for military aid in 1987 fiscal to its allies in the most explosive region of the world -- the Middle East. Israel, the main "strategic ally" of the United States there, is to receive of three billion dollars for military purposes. This, according to Schneider, will make it possible to maintain Tel Aviv's military preparedness. A further 2.1 billion dollars are to go to Egypt in a bid to preserve Cairo's allegiance to the separate "peace treaty" with Israel.

In the next fiscal year, it is planned to spend almost three billion dollars on the maintenance and expansion of American military bases in different "strategically important" regions of the world as well as on military cooperation with the states where these bases are situated. According to Schneider, Turkey, for example, is to receive modern military hardware by way of a reward for putting up with U.S. military presence. It is planned to supply the newest F-16 fighter bombers to that country.

The State Department official did not bother to conceal that Washington devotes special attention to building up military capabilities of the countries bordering on the nations against which the U.S. wages undeclared wars. Schneider said that the administration is going to build up the military capability of Thailand from where Khmer counter-revolutionary groups stage destructive raids into independent Kampuchea. More than half a billion dollars is to be spent on military aid to Pakistan whose territory is used as a staging area for the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

U.S. MAKES ECONOMIC POLICY AT EXPENSE OF ALLIES

LD191355 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- TASS observer Ivan Ablamov writes:

The Tokyo money market has registered the growth of the exchange rate of the Japanese yen with regard to the U.S. dollar -- 174.6 yen per one dollar, which is an all-time record in the post-war period. The actual revaluation of the Japanese currency is the result of the agreement reached by five leading capitalist states in New York last September -- to take steps with a view to bringing down the overstated parity of the dollar which caused the flow of capital from Western Europe and Japan to the U.S. to a great detriment to their economies. However, quite unexpectedly for Tokyo, the exchange rate of the yen soared so quickly -- by about 28 per cent since last September -- that it brought about serious consequences for the Japanese economy which had experienced the decline in production in the past three quarters.

The growth of the exchange rate of the yen undermines Japanese exports. The Japanese Government had to take urgent measures to support export-oriented medium and small firms and to come out for a joint interference of Western powers in the money markets with the aim to arrest the rapid growth of the parity of the yen.

West European countries are also deeply worried over the fact that the confusion of the currency markets negatively affects their foreign trade and economies which depend very much on the situation in he sphere of foreign trade.

The impression is that by taking advantage of the New York agreement and deliberately bringing down the exchange rate of the dollar with the aim to improving the competitiveness of U.S. goods, the U.S. unleashed a genuine "trade war" against its rivals.

With the help of it Washington seeks to improve the adverse balance of U.S. foreign trade which stood last year at 149 billion dollars and reduce to some extent the enormous budget deficit. The U.S. repeatedly urges its allies not to waste their energies to internal strife and at the same time it is not above improving its economic situation at the expense of Western Europe and Japan.

It is waging the trade and economic struggle in the world market with the help of pressure and open diktat. It is worth recalling how the U.S. unceremoniously breaks into the traditional industrial and agricultural markets of Western Europe and at the same time puts up protectionist barriers on the way of the automobiles, steel and other goods exported from Western Europe and Japan to the U.S. Washington openly threatens to resort to economic repressions against its competitors. It is not accidental that the U.S. economic expansion was criticized recently at a session of the EEC Council of Ministers on the level of ministers of foreign affairs.

The aggressive U.S. foreign economic policy leads not to the overcoming, but to a further aggravation of its contradictions with the allies.

TASS NOTES BUSH TO TOUR PERSIAN GULF 3-12 APRIL

LD181006 Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- As the White House said on Monday, U.S. Vice President George Bush is to go on a tour of Persian Gulf area from April 3 to 12, which will take him to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain and the Yemen Arab Republic. Larry Speakes, White House deputy press secretary, said that the USA has important strategic interests in that area and that Bush will hold consultations on regional security issues with officials of those countries. As is known, Washington, which has arbitrarily announced the oil-rich Persian Gulf region to be a "zone of its vital interests" is intensively arming its allies and using access to military bases and facilities on their territory to consolidate its own military presence in that part of the world.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR U.S. CP CONFERENCE

PM191227 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 86 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "To Take Part in a Conference"]

[Text] Yu. A. Krasin, protector of the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy, and D.A. Lisovolik, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Section, left for New York on 13 March to take part in a theoretical conference to mark the centennial of May Day, at the invitation of the journal POLITICAL AFFAIRS (organ of the Communist Party of the United States).

CANADIAN DEBATE OVER NATO TRAINING BASE VIEWED

PM171143 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Shelkov dispatch: "In Hock to NATO?"]

[Text] Ottawa, 12 Mar -- Canadian press attention has lately turned again to the creation of a major NATO base in the Goose Bay region (Newfoundland). The implementation of the plan would mean the appearance on Canadian territory of the first NATO bloc training complex for practicing tactical air force operations.

Goose Bay is already actively used by the Canadian, U.S., British, and FRG air forces for combat exercises.

While a group of NATO experts has been deciding whom to give preference to (a similar training complex could be built in Turkey), sharp controversy has raged in Canada as to whether it is at all expedient to pawn such a large area of Newfoundland as a NATO base. Peace movement activists warn that such a base, as a NATO base where nuclear weapons will most likely be sited, will deprive Canada of the opportunity to pursue a truly independent security policy and will turn it into a hostage of the Pentagon.

SOVIET-CHINESE COMMISSION REACHES AGREEMENT

Satisfaction Expressed

OW190033 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technical Cooperation held its second meeting in Beijing.

A Soviet delegation headed by Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and a Chinese delegation headed by Li Peng, vice premier of the Chinese State Council, reached an agreement on the expansion of economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the agreement.

PRC Official Speaks

OW192354 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to China 0400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The second session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation was held in Beijing. An agreement was reached on further promoting bilateral cooperation in these areas.

On behalf of the Sino-Soviet work group, Wang Pinqing, Chinese vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade, made a report on the process of drafting the contractual agreement.

Arkhipov has expressed satisfaction with the agreement.

ARTICLE REVIEWS PRC LIGHT INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

PM191000 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Mar 86 p 3

[TASS report: "Reconstruction of Enterprises"]

[Text] Beijing, 17 Mar -- RENMIN RIBAO reports that 7,000 light industry enterprises have been reconstructed in China in the last 5 years. The newspaper notes that some enterprises failed to ensure even simple reproduction during the preceding period due to technical backwardness and lack of local funds to overcome it.

About 17 billion yuan have been appropriated for the needs of the sector's retooling during the Sixth 5-Year Plan, and equipment worth $2 billion has been imported. As a result of the measures that have been taken, 80 percent of output is now produced by reconstructed factories, and production of a number of new articles has been started up. Exports of light industry products have increased by 75 percent.

At the same time, the newspaper writes, the overwhelming majority of the sector's existing 70,000 enterprises are small. They are unable to satisfy the population's fast growing purchasing power. The Chinese press points out that an 8 percent increase has been planned in light industry output for this year. Nonetheless, a certain gap still remains between demand and supply.

SENATOROV SAYS USSR VIEW ON ISLANDS UNCHANGED

OW191129 Tokyo KYODO in English 1111 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 19 KYODO -- The Soviet Union's view on the four islands off Hokkaido which it has been occupying since the closing days of World War II has not changed, a visiting vice chairman of the Soviet-Japan Society said here Wednesday.

Aleksey Ivanovich Senatorov made the comment in a meeting with Eiichi Nagasue, vice chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), and Akira Watanabe, director of the party's international affairs department. According to officials of the opposition party who attended the meeting, Nagasue said that solving the problem of the islands claimed by Japan, the so-called northern territories issue, is important to enable the two countries to regain mutual trust.

Senatorov said, however, that any discussion of the issue would amount to a review (of the outcome) of World War II. He extended an invitation for leaders of the DSP to visit the Soviet Union, the officials said.

PRAVDA CITES DPRK PAPER ON TREATY ANNIVERSARY

PM191221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Our Friendship Is Inviolable"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 17 Mar -- The USSR-DPRK agreement on economic and cultural cooperation has helped to strengthen the traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and opened up broad opportunities for developing bilateral relations, the newspaper NODONG SINMUM writes in connection with today's 37th anniversary of the signing of the document.

The Soviet people, who shed blood for the liberation of Korea, gave the republic material and moral assistance during the difficult years of postwar restoration. Today the USSR actively assists the DPRK in building socialism and supports the republic's foreign policy course which is connected with peaceful unification of the motherland, the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee organ notes.

The Koreans sincerely rejoice in the Soviet people's achievements and actively support and welcome the steps taken by the CPSU and the Soviet state aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons, preventing the militarization of space, and strengthening general security. The 27th CPSU Congress mapped out important new landmarks in the USSR's domestic and foreign policy. The Soviet people have enthusiastically set about implementing the decisions of the CPSU forum, the newspaper writes.

Soviet-Korean friendship is steadily developing now as it has in the past. The Korean people will make every effort to further strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, NODONG SINMUM stresses.

U.S.-S. KOREAN 'TEAM SPIRIT-86' EXERCISE DENOUNCED

SK150404 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise of the United States and South Korea is now being staged in earnest in South Korea. In this connection, station commentator Vladimir (Goloyoyev) says:

The U.S. side alone is mobilizing 28 naval ships and almost 30,000 Marine Corps troops for this joint military exercise. This joint military exercise is being staged in the vicinity of the boundaries of the DPRK, the Soviet Union, and other countries. This military exercise is being staged with combat operations on the ground, at sea, and in the skies under the condition of a simulated nuclear attack.

Such a simulated nuclear attack plan has been included in the Pentagon's plan. If such a simulated nuclear attack plan were not included in the Pentagon's plan, the United States would not deploy some 1,000 nuclear warheads in the area of the southern half of Korea. In addition to this, various kinds of nuclear warhead delivery missiles and F-16 fighter-bombers are also deployed in South Korea.

Speaking at the 27th CPSU Congress, Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, who led a delegation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] to the CPSU congress, said:

[Begin recording] With the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their complete turning of it into a base for nulcear war, Korea today has become not only the arena of our struggle for national sovereignty, but also a site of sharp confrontation between socialism and imperialism, between the international progressive forces and the international reactionary forces, and between the peace-loving and war-loving forces of the world.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities have staged again the "Team Spirit-86" nuclear war exercise against us in South Korea, thereby leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war. [end recording]

The organizers of the current military exercise in the Far East are asserting that their act is a result of the so-called possible threat from socialist Korea. But this assertion is indeed an outright lie and fabrication.

Pyongyang has proposed that nuclear weapons be withdrawn from the Korean peninsula and a peace zone be established on the Korean peninsula. As a part of its efforts for this proposal, Pyongyang has unilaterally stopped its military exercises.

The response of the United States and South Korea to this proposal from Pyongyang was the militarist and provocative "Team Spirit-86" military exercise.

The escalation of this military exercise will aggravate the acute situation in the Far East that Washington and Seoul have created.

SUPREME SOVIET'S ORLOV RECEIVES MONGOLIAN VISITOR

PM191544 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, recieved and had talks 17 March with N. Jagvaral, leader of the Mongolian Great People's Hural delegation, candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo, and deputy chairman of the Mongolian Great People's Hural Presidium, who stopped over in Moscow.

PRAVDA REPORTS END OF INDIAN PARTY CONGRESS

PM191201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Report by O. Kitsenki, V. Korovikov, and V. Baydashin: "Congress Completes Work, Final Resolutions Adopted"]

[Text] Patna, 17 Mar -- The 13th Communist Party of India (CPI) Congress completed its work today. At the final session the delegates unanimously elected 125 members of the party's supreme leading organ -- the CPI National Council -- plus 13 candidate members of the National Council and 11 members of the Central Control Commission. Approximately 20 percent of the CPI National Council members were elected for the first time.

Rajesware Rao, general secretary of the CPI National Council, delivered the closing speech at the congress. Our congress, he said, has been held in an atmosphere of unity and cohesion. The presence of a large number of delegations from fraternal communist and workers parties once again shows that our party is an unalienable component of the international communist movement. We understand that in the present complex international situation great responsibility rests with our party for mobilizing the masses to struggle against nuclear catastrophe and for preserving peace. In this mass movement it is essential to unite all those who cherish peace, irrespective of political, religious, and other differences. We will do everything to ensure that our party carries out this responsible task. From the congress rostrum we once again state that the CPI will continue to carry high the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will be a staunch defender of the working people's interests, and will struggle to develop the country along a path of peace and socioeconomic progress, Rajesware Rao stressed in conclusion.

Thirty-six delegations of fraternal communist, worker, and revolutionary-democratic parties and national liberation movements participated in the work of the congress, including a CPSU delegation headed by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Before the final day of work, the delegates approved the CPI National Council report on the political situation in the country and the world and on party activity since the 12th congress and also passed a political resolution.

The political resolution notes that the present international situation is extremely complex and dangerous -- for which U.S. imperialism is to blame. The threat of nuclear destruction looming over mankind has never been as serious as it is today. However, there are powerful and reliable forces in the world arena -- primarily the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, nonaligned and recently liberated states, and the extensive world anti-imperialist and antiwar movement -- which are capable of foiling imperialism's plans and eliminating the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

Regarding the foreign policy conducted by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, the resolution notes that the government follows a course of nonalignment and peace. India supports the peoples' struggle for liberation and against imperialism, racism, and neocolonialism. It pursues a policy of friendship with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and its cooperation with the world of socialism is developing in the most diverse spheres. It is opposed to the nuclear arms race and the militarization of space, and also to imperialism's aggressive plans. It also supports the Soviet Union's constructive peace initiatives. As the country chairing the Nonaligned Movement, India plays a prominent role in the international arena.

The resolution condemns U.S. support of Pakistan in its creation of nuclear weapons and the unceasing U.S. deliveries to Pakistan of other modern weapons, which represents a direct threat to India's security.

In the economic section the political resolution stresses the need to comprehensively expand and strengthen the country's state sector and to involve the working class in effective participation in management of this sector. The resolution exposes the neocolonialist plans of multinational corporations with regard to India and demands that effective measures be taken to protect the republic's national sovereignty and economic independence. The comprehensive cooperation that has formed between India and the Soviet Union and other friendly socialist countries, the document states, has helped India to create a powerful state sector and lay the foundations for an independent national economy. This allows it to more successfully pursue an anti-imperialist, peaceful course in the international arena. The Indian-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation is a reliable basis for this policy. Consequently, the resolution states, it is extremely important to develop even closer cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and to rebuff any attempts to undermine this cooperation.

The resolution connects the various difficulties encountered by India in the economic, social, and political spheres with the country's capitalist development. The document urges the working masses, the working class, the peasantry, and agricultural workers to rebuff splitting and separatist forces and to strive to implement land reform, protect the peasantry, and uphold the democratic rights of the people and the working class. In the struggle against religious fanaticism, the party calls for united action with all democratic forces, including the Indian National Congress (INC-I). Particular significance in this respect is attached to united action between the CPI and the CPI (Marxist), which in recent years has yielded definite positive results.

Uniting left-wing and democratic forces, the CPI must act as initiator and organizor of the working people's struggle for their rights and interests and must strengthen mass organizations of the working class, the peasantry, and agricultural workers.

Bearing the banner of Marxism-Leninism on high and uniting the broad people's masses around us, the resolution points out in conclusion, we will be able to carry out the task of national democratic revolution and progress along the path of socialism.

It was with profound indignation that the congress delegates received the news of the arrival of a strike group of ships of the American 7th Fleet, headed by the nuclear aircraft carrier Enterprise, in the Pakistan port of Karachi. (Indradip) Singh, secretary of the CPI National Council, published a special congress resolution sharply condemning U.S. military activity close to India's shores.

A large meeting, in which several hundred thousand people participated, was held in the city at the close of the congress. Rajeswara Rao, other Communist Party leaders, as well as representatives of fraternal foreign parties addressed the meeting. V.P.Anishchev, member of the CPSU Party Central Committee, addressed the participants in the meeting on behalf of the Soviet delegation.

USSR MINISTRY DETAILS JOINT DRA TRADE FIGURES

LD191443 Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- Trade between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan amounted to over 873 million roubles in 1985, a TASS correspondent has been told at the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the USSR.

Soviet exports to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan amounted to 550.2 million roubles while the USSR imports from Afghanistan increased by 19 million roubles, as compared with the previous year, to reach 323 million roubles.

Mutual trade exchange includes a broad assortment of products ranging from manufactured goods, machine tools, equipment, motor vehicles, to raw materials and food products, electricity, consumer goods. The two sides signed last (?year) big contracts for mutual deliveries of different products in 1986 and subsequent years. The contracts were signed from the Soviet side by foreign trade associations technopromexport, selkhozpromexport, [word indistinct] and many others.

Joint construction of different projects in economy is also an important area of bilateral cooperation. In the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan there are now more than 200 [word indistinct] projects which have already been built or are under construction with technical assistance of the USSR, it has been learnt at the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. These include industrial enterprises, light and food industry factories, transport routes.

A high-capacity line to transmit electricity from the state frontier between the two countries was put into exploitation on the territory of Afghanistan in 1985. It was built in close cooperation between organizations of the two countries. The USSR has started transmitting electricity by the line for the needs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

In the course of bilateral economic negotiations, held last year, the two sides mapped out areas, including new ones, for further development and deepening of mutually-beneficial and equitable trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

DRA COTTON CULTIVATION, IRRIGATION REPORTED

LD192139 Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul March 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov reports:

A new large cotton-growing region is being created in northern Afghanistan. By this spring, the republic's irrigators have prepared for sowing 175 hectares of what was once arid land in Takhar Province, where the construction of a system to irrigate 2,000 hectares of arable lands is nearing completion and housing is being built. In the long-term, several state farms will be set up there to grow high quality cotton on an area of 14,000 hectares.

Irrigation plays an important role in developing agriculture in Afghanistan. Farmers collect two, sometimes three, harvests a year on irrigated lands, the reason why the Government of Afghanistan is paying special attention to irrigation. This Afghan year, wich ends on March 20, a total of 800 million Afghani were allocated for irrigating arid lands. A total of 1,100 hectares was irrigated and water supply of 7,000 hectares imporved. Land improvement workers are a common sight in nearly every region of the contry now. In Helmand Province, noted for its vineyards and other fruit, they are building a new irrigation system, which has already brought water to 3,000 hectares of land.

Under a draft new five-year plan for the social and economic development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for 1986-1991, land improvement efforts will get 150 per cent more funds than in the preceding five years, which will make it possible to irrigate another 55,000 hectares.

The Soviet Union renders the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan significant assistance in the latter's land improvement efforts. This Afghan year, the 20th anniversary since the Jalalabad irrigation complex was built with Soviet technical assistance, was marked throughout the country. Owing to a broad network of irrigation canals, this densely-populated region has become a major producer of subtropical cultures.

DRA NEWSMEN'S REBUTTAL ON RIGHTS ALLEGATIONS NOTED

PM171153 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Mar 86 p 3

[Unnamed TASS correspondent dispatch: "False Propaganda"]

[Text] Kabul -- A press conference for local and foreign journalists has been held here in connection with the campaign about "human rights violations" in the DRA whipped up in the West.

The instigators of the undeclared war against the DRA, above all the Washington administration, BAKHTAR Director General (M.D. Kavian) stated, have unleashed malicious propaganda against our country based on CIA-connected reports and statements by so-called "human rights experts." The real aim of this false propaganda is to distract world public attention and to justify imperialism's aggression against the DRA and and the bloody crimes committed by the counterrevolution. The West is giving millions of dollars to the bandits and equipping them with modern weapons.

PRAVDA CITES 'CONCERN' OVER UK ARMS FOR PAKISTAN

PM121219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Arming Pakistan"]

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Mar -- Pakistan is expanding military cooperation with the West. According to a report by the INDIAN EXPRESS newspaper, the Islamabad regime intends to conclude a major agreement with Britain on arms deliveries to the value of 420 million pounds sterling. In accordance with the planned deal, the specific details of which will be discussed during the forthcoming trip to Islamabad in early April by G. Howe, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, Britain will supply Pakistan with components for self-propelled antiaircraft guns, tank turrets, and other military equipment.

The INDIAN EXPRESS notes in this connection that arms producers in the British Isles are becoming one of the main suppliers of military equipment for the Pakistan Army. The Royal Ordance company, in particular, intends to sell Islamabad 105-mm tank guns. Military plants in Pakistan which have British licenses have already begun producing field guns, ammunition, and communications equipment.

Expressing concern over the increasingly strong military ties between the Islamabad regime and the United States, Britain, and other Western countries, the newspaper stresses the threat to India's security and will lead to a build up of tension in the region.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY CRITICIZES PRC POLICY

PM131646 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 86 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs Memorandum"]

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Mar -- Today the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs published a memorandum on the state of Vietnamese-Chinese relations. The document notes that China has recently unleashed a propaganda campaign in an attempt to justify its hostile policy against the SRV and drive a wedge between the ASEAN countries and Vietnam.

After the total victory of the revolution in Vietnam in 1975, Chinese intensified its military pressure and provocation along its border with Vietnam and used Pol Pot hirelings in Cambodia as an instrument of aggression against the SRV. In February 1979 it invaded the SRV with all the force of its 600,000-strong Army. From that day to this, it has not ceased actions aimed at undermining peaceful building in the SRV, maintains 15-20 divisions in direct proximity to the border, subjects all six contiguous Vietnamese provinces to artillery fire, and has occupied a number of high points in the Vi Xuyen District of Ha Tuyen Province. There have been casualties among the population of Vietnam's northern provinces as a result of these operations.

Having suffered all the burdens of the aggressive U.S. war, the Vietnamese people sincerely desire peace, particularly with China -- a great power and their immediate neighbor. The Vietnamese side has more than once expressed good will and put forward specific proposals aimed at easing tension along the border. Unfortunately, the Chinese side claims that "the political atmosphere for negotiations between the two countries still does not exist."

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO POLAND

IZVESTIYA on Speeches

PM191604 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In an Atmosphere of Friendship and Complete Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] Warsaw, 17 Mar -- E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, arrived in Warsaw from Moscow on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Polish Government on 17 March. He was met at the airport by M. Orzechowski, candidate member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo an Polish foreign minister, and other officials. V.I. Brovikov, USSR ambassador to Poland, was among the welcoming party.

Talks were held between E.A. Shevardnadze and M. Orzechowski on 17 March.

The sides expressed profound satisfaction at the dynamic forward development of the entire range of Soviet-Polish relations. The meeting in March this year between M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski was of great importance for determining the prospects for strengthening these relations.

The talks reaffirmed the complete unity of views between the USSR and Poland on all topical international problems and their firm resolve, together with the other Warsaw Pact states, to actively struggle to remove the nuclear threat and to ensure a breakthrough for the better on the European Continent and in the world as a whole.

The Polish side expressed total support for the specific program of actions put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress for the sake of maintaining and asserting peace and creating a comprehensive international security system.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of fraternity, cordiality, and complete mutual understanding typical of relations between the CPSU and the PZPR and between the Soviet and Polish peoples.

In the evening, M. Orzechowski hosted a dinner in E.A. Shevardnadze's honor during which an exchange of speeches took place.

Addressing the guest, M. Orzechowski said: This meeting is a continuation of the talks held in Moscow. We exchanged opinions on current questions of Polish-Soviet cooperation and on certain international problems. This exchange of opinions was held in a spirit of complete unity of views on all questions.

We listened with immense attention to the briefing on the work of the 27th CPSU Congress, which was a historic event not only in the life of the CPSU and the Soviet State. The congress is of immense importance for strengthening the might and cohesion of the socialist community states on the basis of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and was an important event in the international communist and workers movement.

Preparing for its 10th congress, the PZPR is making use of the rich theoretical and practical experience of the CPSU. Our congress, having approved the draft PZPR Program, will define the avenues for further building socialism in Poland and will be an important factor along the road of overcoming difficulties and strengthening socialism's position in our country.

Fraternal cooperation between Poland and the USSR is developing dynamically in all spheres. This is evidence of the ideological link between our Marxist-Leninist parties, the commonality of our interests, and the joint struggle for security and world peace.

The decisions made during the meetings and talks between Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, are of prime importance for defining the prospects and avenues of this cooperation. The PZPR delegation's participation in the work of the 27th CPSU Congress was a substantive factor in the development and strengthening of cooperation between our parties and states. We thank you for giving our delegation such a cordial reception.

The recent official friendly visit to the USSR by Zbigniew Messner, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, was also an important contribution to the development of Polish-Soviet cooperation.

Our current talks confirm that the development of Polish-Soviet relations is ascending in all spheres. Polish-Soviet collaboration is acquiring a qualitatively new nature. This is attested by the successful implementation of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation begun in 1984 and the implementation of the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress begun in 1985, both of which are aimed at the next millennium.

Recently we have achieved considerable progress in developing cooperation in the sphere of culture and science. The plan for cultural and scientific exchanges in 1986-1990 is a reflection of the considerable expansion of its scale and enrichment of its forms. However, we believe that there are still considerable reserves for developing bilateral cooperation in these spheres.

We attach great importance to the development of direct cooperation among enterprises, scientific research centers, higher educational establishments, cultural institutions, creative unions, and social organizations. This makes it possible to establish direct contacts between people, which makes a substantial contribution to strengthening the bonds of friendship between our peoples.

The 27th CPSU Congress is of immense importance for the socialist states' new peace offensive in the international arena. It adopted Comrade Gorbachev's comprehensive plan for preventing the arms race spreading to space and ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the end of this century.

The main aim of the Warsaw Pact states' coordinated foreign policy at this time is to maintain peace and to ensure a return to detente. Poland is doing everything in its power to implement this joint policy. We continue to act in the interests of strengthening the socialist community and consistently oppose the policy of confrontation pursued by the United States and its allies and all attempts, primarily in the FRG, to call into question the postwar territorial and political setup.

We see the strengthening of the alliance and friendship with the USSR as the cornerstone of Polish foreign policy and a long-term strategic goal guaranteeing Poland's successful development, its security, and its position and role in the socialist community and the world.

In conclusion, M. Orzechowski expressed confidence that the current visit and the sincere and constructive talks would serve to ensure further progress in mutual cooperation and the strengthening of fraternal friendship between the two states and peoples.

In his reply speech, E.A. Shevardnadze stressed that being friends with fraternal Poland is a great joy for us. I am visiting your beautiful country for the first time and consequently feel particularly keenly the warmth of its soul and the full extent of its cordial hospitality. It is one thing to know a great deal about the life of a fraternal people and the activity of its party and government; it is another thing to see that land of friends for yourself and to experience the incomparable feelings of meeting its people who are so generous in displaying their friendship and brotherhood.

True friends show friendship in everything. Both in the way they welcome you into their home and in the way they talk about general matters and how they are building them.

The business part of our visit and the talks I had today with my esteemed colleague are the fruitful continuation of our comradely dialogue begun recently in Moscow during the Polish foreign minister's visit to our country. They reaffirm the particularly friendly nature of relations between our countries and peoples and the cooperation that is strengthening in all spheres.

Our conversation was very productive. There is no other way it could have been. For it was preceded by the important meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council. This meeting provided us with clear reference points and a precise vision of the avenues along which we need to continue to develop cooperation in the interests of peace and socialism.

We have discussed topical questions today -- questions which are topical both for our countries and for the world as a whole -- but for all their complexity we found it easy to talk. The unity of views and assessments and identity of positions on the most vital problems of the age which are so characteristic for the CPSU and the PZPR and for our governments has also been manifested in the current talks with all inspiring fullness.

We have come to Poland at a glorious time. Spring -- the season of the renewal of nature -- is coming to the world. In our countries, as throughout the world, people are linking with it hopes for the renewal of the nature of interstate relations, for the awakening of new reason and new thinking rejecting force and intimidation as a means of solving international problems. And although the political horizon is not always clear, and even cold winds can make themselves felt, the ray of hope is not being extinguished. It could be said that it is becoming brighter.

Our visit to Poland is taking place immediately after the 27th CPSU Congress. Like the delegations from the other community countries, a delegation from the fraternal PZPR played a most active part in it. Comrade Jaruzelski's speech at the Soviet Communists' forum and his thought that what is happening in the USSR "is of great importance for the fraternal parties, the socialist community, the international communist and workers movement, and the fate of the whole of mankind" were assessed highly in our country.

We know that the Polish mass media provided extensive coverage of the work of the congress and the decisions it adopted. Here today I would like to stress the following fundamentally important points from Comrade Gorbachev's Political Report to the congress.

The dynamism of the world socialist system's economic and political development is stronger than ever today and influencing the fate of peace and social progress. The forms of cooperation among the Warsaw Pact countries are being improved and enriched. The CPSU attaches increasing significance to living, extensive communication among citizens of the socialist countries.

A solicitous and respectful attitude toward each other's experience and its utilization in practice constitutes a tremendous reserve for the socialist community.

Peace -- the supreme class principle of socialism -- was proclaimed by the congress. The struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for the preservation and consolidation of universal peace was declared to be the main avenue of our party's foreign policy strategy.

Having formulated the principle of solving any international problems exclusively by political means on the basis of equality, trust, and universality [vseobshchnost], the CPSU advanced program tenets for achieving these objectives. In accordance with these, priority significance in all the USSR's foreign policy is attached to the implementation of the program, spelled out in Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's statement, for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century. The historic concept of a nuclear-free world was born of the collective thinking of the entire socialist community. It reflects the aspirations of all the world's peace-loving people.

Poland's active participation in the implementation of the fraternal socialist states' coordinated course aimed at achieving a change for the better in European and world affairs is assessed highly in the Soviet Union.

Our fraternal countries' alliance is a tremendous asset for our peoples. It can be said without exaggeration that this is an alliance of hearts.

You have heard them beating at difficult times for yourselves. The news of the trials which befell People's Poland caused pain in the soul of every Soviet person. Our concern for the fate of socialism in the fraternal country was inseparable from our determination to help you defend it. Like all the socialist countries and the world's entire democratic public, we were with you at that grave time.

Today we react with joy to news that the time of anxiety is receding, the situation is stabilizing, and the first successes have been achieved -- and all this is thanks to the wisdom, will, and energy of the people and the party headed by Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski. Socialism and Poland's socialist democracy withstood the harsh trial. It strengthened its positions and is now developing them.

We also note the growth of Socialist Poland's active influence on shaping a favorable world climate and the consolidation of its prestige and authority. This is the result of the purposeful foreign policy activity of the country's party leadership. Your successes are a source of joy to your friends and disappointment to your foes.

Let me recall a saying current among your people. It says: "A brother derives strength from his brother."

Poland and its interests are dear to us. Polish soil, in which 600,000 Soviet soldiers who gave their lives together with Poland's best sons and daughters for our peoples' freedom and happiness, is sacred to us.

Unbreakable Soviet-Polish friendship was, is, and will remain the best memorial to the heroes.

Tomorrow we are to pay a tribute of grateful remembrance. By the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at the Soviet military cemetery, in front of the eternal monuments to fraternal Soviet-Polish combat cooperation, our mind's eye will not only travel back to the past. During the minutes of silence we will be thinking about the future, which through our joint efforts must become an age without wars or weapons.

This objective is attainable. For its sake "an eternal free spirit will join us in a close ring."

You know this poem by Maria Konopnicka better than I do. But I would also like to add that politics has its own poetry if it serves the happiness of mankind. It is for this that we live and work, for this that our parties act.

An important event will soon occur in the life of the Polish people, their United Workers Party, and our entire community -- the 10th PZPR Congress. The preparations for this most important forum, which will undoubtedly exert a tremendous positive influence on the fraternal country's progress, are being followed with great attention and interest in our country.

In conclusion, E.A. Shevardnadze wished the congress great success and proposed toasts to the strengthening of unbreakable Soviet-Polish friendship and the happiness and flourishing of fraternal Poland.

Shevardnadze Interviewed

LD201102 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw March 20 TASS -- The plan for stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear, chemical and other types of mass destruction weapons is contained in the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of January 15 this year. The ideas spelled out in that document were elaborated as a result of collective creativity by the fraternal socialist countries, said Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, in the PAP agency interview.

Had it only been for us, we would have already started the implementation of that plan. In a certain sense, Eduard Shevardnadze said, we have already done so -- we have not conducted nuclear explosions for seven months now and will not resume them, unless the USA conduct such explosions. The Soviet Union's stand is simple -- let us first end the explosions and then it will be possible to control things as much as one may wish and in any way possible. We have explicitly declared that we agree to any forms of control, including on-site inspection.

Then why the Americans do not agree to a moratorium? [sentence as received] Why have they all of a sudden changed their own stand on control, which is the main problem? They need nuclear explosions for the creation of space weapons, Eduard Shevardnadze continued. The halting of testing destroys their plans of preparations for "star wars".

Now we can hear the following argument: "As long as nuclear weapons exist they must be tested." What is the sense of saying so? As if the other side has such weapons, that do not require testing. The problem of nuclear explosions is precisely the field, in which the real intentions and real readiness of the states to resolve in practical terms the questions of nuclear disarmament most clearly manifest themselves. The truth is that we are prepared for that, while the American side is not.

And one can clearly see from this who really favours peace and who is for preserving and heightening nuclear confrontation. The NATO countries do not wish to withdraw the American missiles from the territory of the West European states and in order to mislead their own peoples, they are artificially bringing in the question of the Soviet operational-tactical missiles in Europe. As if they do not know our explicit statement that they will by withdrawn as soon as the question of medium-range missiles is resolved.

Instead of unravelling the European missile "knot", the foreign minister of the USSR stressed, the NATO countries are trying to tighten it still more by weaving in our missiles in Asia. Here it is, the moment of the truth: When the matter comes to action Washington and its allies do not want nuclear weapons to be eliminated.

Concerning the problem of elimination of debts Eduard Shevardnadze said: Indeed, imperialism is constantly looking for ways to assure its continued economic domination over some or other countries. It is by shamelessly plundering the peoples that the imperialist powers finance their military programmes and maintain their economic welfare. The arms race launched by imperialism entails a progressing impoverishment of countries and peoples. Here are some figures mentioned at the 27th Congress of the CPSU. There is a direct cause-and-effect connection between the one trillion dollar debt of developing states and the more than a trillion dollar increase in the U.S. military expenditures. Over 200 billion dollars are taken away from developing countries yearly. The U.S. military budget in recent years is practically equal to the same sum.

The rechannelling of funds from the sphere of military production into a civilian economy and the use of the funds they released for purposes of civilian development, the minister said, would help solve all the principal economic and social problems of the "Third World". The world where the number of starving people may reach a billion by the end of the century, where a half of newborn babies die before reaching the age of twelve months, and where only one in three children are vaccinated against fatal infectious diseases.

But does this concern developing countries only? In the selfsame "welfare" Western Europe a reduction of military budgets would help save 300 billion dollars.

Here too solutions lie, in our opinion, with the ending of the arms race and disarmament, with a radical restructuring of international economic relations on a just and equal basis. In this connection we attach special importance to acceptance of the concept of international economic security, one of the components of a comprehensive international security system put forward at the 27th Congress of the CPSU. The Soviet Union, as Mikhail Gorbachev said, comes out for the convocation of a world congress on this problem.

Speaking of the results of his official friendly visit to Poland the Soviet foreign minister said specifically: "We have every reason to be satisfied with work done. Our cooperation is growing broader, richer and deeper. This is taking place on the basis of equality, respect for each other's experience. Mutual assistance rests on mutual, and I would say, vital, interest in the successful socialist development of our countries. The better-off you are, the more achievements you have in the economy, social and cultural development, the better it is for your friends in the socialist countries, and vice versa, their acievements are your asset.

"Poland's alliance with the Soviet Union and other states of the socialist community is a guarantee of a strong and prosperous Poland. We see in this a basic quality, a principled difference of relationships between socialist states".

Comparison on Jaruzelski Talks

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian in its 19 March Morning Edition publishes on page 5 a report headlined "Unity of Views on All Questions" which has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published on page F 1 of the 19 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT revealing the following variations:

In the first paragraph, last line, IZVESTIYA reads: ...the Polish Government.

E.A. Shevardnadze conveyed cordial greetings to W. Jaruzelski and good wishes from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the entire Soviet leadership. For his part W. Jaruzelski asked E.A. Shevardnadze to convey ardent greetings and best wishes to M.S. Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders.

In the course... (adding paragraph, picking up paragraph two, line one);

In paragraph two, line five, IZVESTIYA reads: ...constantly growing stronger and their close political collaboration are the motive forces behind the all-around development and further improvement of Soviet-Polish cooperation in all spheres.

W. Jaruzelski noted that, in preparing for the 10th PZPR Congress, Polish Communists fully support the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, which was a source of inspiration, knowledge, and experience for them.

On behalf of the Soviet leadership, E.A. Shevardnadze conveyed to Polish Communists wishes for success in preparing for and holding their supreme forum and in implementing their efforts to strengthen socialist gains in the country.

Exchanging opinions on... (rewording, adding paragraphs, picking up paragraph three, line one);

Last paragraph, last line, IZVESTIYA reads: ...security and disarmament.

The profound adherence of the Soviet Union and Poland to the fraternal countries' common course of saving mankind from the nuclear threat, limiting the arms race, and maintaining and strengthening universal peace was reaffirmed. The Soviet Union's large-scale proposals -- of paramount importance for all mankind -- which were put forward at the 27th CPSU Congress and in M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January statement and the initiatives and proposals by the other socialist countries in this direction serve to achieve these aims.

On the same day, E.A. Shevardnadze laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at the Soviet military cemetery.... (adding paragraphs)

JARUZELSKI VISITS MOSCOW PLANT DURING CONGRESS

LD071142 Moscow International Service in Polish 1500 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Excerpts] On 5 March, the PZPR delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress, with party Central Committee First Secretary Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Polish Peoples Republic's Council of State at its head, visited the Moscow scientific production association (?skravarek).

At the end of the meeting, Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski spoke to those assembled in Russian: Above all, I would like to express thanks for the support given to us, for help, for constructive cooperation with Polish enterprises and institutions established precisely in those areas about which we spoke today, said Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski.

This has not only enormous economic and technological but also, I would say, moral and political significance, particularly at such a stage in history when it must be shown in practice what results the joint, necessary, simply internationalistic solution of problems provide in connection with future development. I believe the best form of political agitation is the joint, correct solution of emerging problems. Facts best convince and manifest what friendship and internationalism are based on, and what concrete contacts give to our countries. I also think, over and above this, that it is very important that in your association, cooperation of a qualitatively higher standard is developing, said Wojciech Jaruzelski. A simple exchange of goods is all very well, however, at the moment, the most important thing for us, (?offering) the greatest prospects, is intense cooperation and specialization in the production of the most modern and flawless products.

Next, Comrade Jaruzelski emphasized that everything that the Polish delegation had witnessed in the Land of the Soviets during the days of the congress, and its very participation in the proceedings of the Soviet Communists' forum, is enormously valuable to its members. In conclusion, Wojciech Jaruzelski thanked the participants of the meeting for their warm words directed to the Polish nation, its working class, youth, and the whole working world.

HUNGARY'S LAZAR VISITS ULYANOVSK DURING CONGRESS

PM030922 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 11

[TASS report under general heading "Cordial, Fraternal Meetings"]

[Text] A meeting of Soviet-Hungarian friendship, attended by the MSZMP delegation, evolved into a manifestation of the unity of thought and inviolability of ties between the CPSU and the MSZMP, between the Soviet Union and People's Hungary. The meeting took place in the assembly shop of the Ulyanovsk plant for heavy custom-built machine tools. The guests were welcomed by V.G. Grishanov, secretary of the plant party committee; design engineer V.A. Shutov, a Patriotic War veteran; R.N. Pinyayeva, core maker at the foundry shop; and Oblispolkom Chairman A.M. Bolshov.

The profound Marxist-Leninist evaluations contained in the Central Committee Political Report and in the delegate speeches at the 27th CPSU Congress are a demonstration of a responsible approach to questions of the Soviet Union's domestic life, its foreign policy, and the contemporary situation in the world, G. Lazar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, said at the meeting. The congress proceedings offer convincing proof that the Soviet people, under the leadership of Lenin's party, are imbued with a desire for renewal and creativity and are prepared to fulfill the inspiring program for the country's socioeconomic development on the basis of accelerated scientific and technical progress. The congress documents are also a true compass for us, and they inspire convincing hope in the triumph of the ideas of socialism, social progress, and peace throughout the world. The Hungarian comrades laid flowers at the V.I. Lenin monument and visited the Great Hall at the Lenin Memorial.

ACTIVITIES OF SFRY DELEGATION IN USSR DESCRIBED

Hosts Dinner for Shcherbitskiy

LD050007 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2228 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 4 Mar (TANJUG) -- Dimce Belovski, secretary of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee and who is heading an LCY delegation at the 27th CPSU Congress in Moscow, this evening gave a dinner in honor of Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, first secretary of the Ukraine Communist Party and member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee.

Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Stanislav Stojanovic, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee; and Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to Moscow, were present.

Exchange of views on cooperation between the LCY and the CPSU and between the SFRY and the USSR took place in a cordial atmosphere.

Delegation Visits Leningrad

LD052127 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] The LCY delegation led by Comrade Dimce Belovski, visited Leningrad today. The guests from Yugoslavia toured the Piskarev memorial cemetery. The delegation paid their respects to the defenders of the city who died in the years of the Great Patriotic War with a moment's silence. Flowers were laid at the monument to the Mother of the Homeland. Red carnations were laid at the memorial to Vladimir Ilich Lenin at Smolnyy. At the Great October headquarters, the Yugoslav comrades toured the memorial museum of the leaders of the revolution. The LCY delegation also laid flowers at the monument to the heroic defenders of Leningrad.

In the afternoon the guests were warmly welcomed by workers of the Elektrosil enterprise. Generators made by the Leningrad firm are exported to 85 countries. This is one of the largest machinery production enterprises in our country and for one-quarter of a century it has been cooperating with the Yugoslav company, Rade Koncar. During this time, Yugoslavia has received generators with a total power of 1.2 million kw. Soviet experts also provide practical assistance in the construction and operation of powerful electrical machines.

The LCY delegation followed with great interest the tests being performed on a machine of the next century, a [word indistinct] turbo generator with a power of 300,000 kw, which cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Members of the workers' collective were addressed by Comrade Dimce Belovski, who was warmly welcomed by the gathering.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CSSR ON TRANSPORT SYSTEM

PM181517 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Report"]

[Text] Talks between the USSR and CSSR Governments were completed in Moscow on 13 March and an agreement on cooperation in building a high-speed transport system in Bratislava was signed.

The agreement was signedby the following:

For the Soviet side -- A. I. Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations;

and for the CSSR side -- L. Vodrazka, CSSR first deputy foreign trade minister.

REPORTAGE ON DEFENSE SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S VISIT

Intentions Criticized

LD192127 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Commentary by station political observer Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Talks were held today between Pentagon chief Weinberger and FRG Chancellor Kohl at one of NATO's military bases in West Germany. Here is our latest commentary by our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver:

The officially announced subject of today's talks is preparations for the regular meeting of NATO's Nuclear Planning Group, which starts tomorrow here in the FRG. Moreover, the West German press notes that attention at the meeting was focused on the question of involving the FRG in the U.S. plans for "star wars." I should like to remind you that negotiations between Washington and Bonn on the question have been going on for a long time. Several West German expert delegations have already crossed the ocean, and another one sets out next Monday, headed this time by Minister of Economic Affairs Bangemann. The FRG has often been visited by U.S. General Abrahamson, who runs the department that is developing space weapons. Nevertheless, despite Chancellor Kohl's readiness in principle, announced long ago, to conclude the relevant agreement with the United States, serious complications have arisen in preparing it, as West German newspapers themselves admit.

The whole point is that while striving to make use of the FRG's industrial and scientific potential for its own purposes, Washington has not the slightest intention of sharing with its West German ally either advanced technology or more of the profits on the production of space weapons. As the SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG put it, Kohl intended only to stretch out a finger, but the United States is unceremoniously preparing to chop off the whole hand.

Notice that Washington deals in the same way with its other allies as well. One of Gen Abrahamson's advisers was even thrown out of Britain recently because of his absolutely avid interest in the latest British technology. As far as one can judge from an article in THE OBSERVER, a British newspaper, the Japanese too are worried that the United States will make use of the latest Japanese technological research but will give nothing in return.

Such are the morals of the champions of "star wars;" our country adopts a totally different position in space affairs. This was emphasized again during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting with scientists and specialists taking part in the Venus-Halleys Comet project. That flight is not only a brilliant achievement of Soviet science and technology but also a convincing example of fruitful international cooperation in the peaceful conquest of space.

I would also add the launching of our new space station with the symbolic name "Mir." All this vididly asserts the peace-loving nature of our country's policies, as endorsed at the 27th CPSU Congress.

Weinberger Arrives in Bonn

LD191910 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] The situation that is forming on the European Continent is far from simple. This is also shown by the current trip by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, to several Western Europe countries.

His talks in London with Younger, Great Britain's secretary of defense, have just ended. In fact they discussed the coordination of Washington and London in their efforts to block any progress in the field of arms control and step-by-step elimination of nuclear weapons.

Today, Weinberger arrived in Bonn, where he immediately had a meeting with Chancellor Kohl of the FRG. Tomorrow in Wuerzburg, in West Germany, the spring session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group opens. The tone of the session will be set by Weinberger. Everyone thinks that the Pentagon chief will try to tie the West European NATO countires even closer to the "star wars" program.

Opens NATO Meeting

LD201122 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Wuerzburg March 20 TASS -- The U.S. "star wars" program and a further drawing into its implementation of U.S. partners by the North Atlantic bloc is the main subject of the spring session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group on the level of defense ministers which opened today in Wuerzburg, West Germany. It is held in conditions of strict secrecy.

Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary, and General James Abrahamson, director of the U.S. SDI program, came to attend the session in order to bring pressure to bear on the allies with the aim to further draw them into the implementation of their militaristic designs. Political observers believe that it is for this purpose that the Washington emissaries will try to discredit the Soviet program of the stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear weapons in the world and to explain their stubborn unwillingness to join the moratorium on all nuclear explosions declared unilaterally by the Soviet Union.

USSR ENVOY COMMENTS ON BONN SDI TALKS

LD191320 Hamburg DPA in German 1215 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Bonn, 19 Mar (DPA) -- The Soviet Embassy in Bonn on Wednesday joined the discussion on the planned SDI agreement between the Federal Republic and the United States with a statement that the SDI program threatened to destroy strategic stability. Concerning the Berlin Clause allegedly being pushed by the Federal Government, charge d'affaires Vladislav Teretskov said at a press conference that according to Western press reports the Americans themselves have reservations about the inclusion of West Berlin.

Teretskov assessed relevant reports as proof of the purely military nature of the U.S. space program. It is still too early to talk about likely effects of Bonn's participation in SDI on German-Soviet relations. This is also true about speculations on a visit by Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the Federal Republic. Teretskov denied that exploratory talks are already in progress with Bonn.

The Soviet diplomat once again called for comprehensive nuclear disarmament and asked the United States to give up the SDI program. He said security can not be built permanently on the fear of retribution. Teretskov underlined his country's willingness to conclude a test ban agreement and pointed out that the Soviet Union will not extend her unilateral moratorium indefinitely.

GDR' HONECKER MEETS WITH MAYOR OF WEST BERLIN

PM181237 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Relations"]

[Text] Berlin, 17 Mar -- E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has met E. Diepgen, mayor of West Berlin, in Leipzig. The ADN agency reports that the participants in the talk focused attention on questions of preserving peace.

The GDR leader pointed out that the GDR favors forming a stable security zone in central Europe. Consequently, in its relations with West Berlin the GDR strives to respect realities and to strictly and completely fulfill the four-power agreement on West Berlin. The development of mutually profitable relations between the GDR and West Berlin has vindicated the four-power agreement and shown that, given a sense of realism [realnost] and good will, positive results are also attainable in the future, ADN reports.

BOGOMOLOV ON EAST-WEST COOPERATION PROSPECTS

PM111701 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 8, Feb 86 pp 18-20

[Article by Academician Oleg Bogomolov: "Europe: Prospects for Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] What we would like the future to have in store for Europe are first of all guaranteed security, prosperity and cooperation between its nations. It is our ardent wish that military confrontation be done away with for good, giving way to good-neighbourliness, ever broader political and economic cooperation among states, and extensive human contacts. Is all this possible, given present realities: a disunited Europe, huge stockpiles of weapons (including nuclear), and anunstable world economy?

Most of us take an optimistic view and believe that Europe's future will be one of peace and prosperity. Nonetheless, both the experience of older generations and the realism prompted by our troubled times make us cautious in attempting to predict the future course of events.

The fate of Europe is decided not only by the nations that comprise it. It also depends on global international processes, which are causing the gravest concern today. The plan for nuclear disarmament on a global scale, put forward in the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, offers prospects also for the European nations with whose aspirations they fully accord.

Time To Remove Barriers

The Geneva summit has had a wholesome effect on the political and psychological climate in Europe. The continent's future will depend chiefly on confidence-building between countries of the two systems. Confidence means the assurance that neither side will take action detrimental to the other in whatever form. Confidence means a benevolent attitude to one another, readiness to discuss problems calmly and find sensible compromises.

The indisputable fact that much in the world depends on the relations between the two great powers -- the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. -- in no way detracts from the role the European states have to play in world affairs. The cradle of world civilization, our continent, which has contributed so greatly in the progress of science, technology, culture and advanced social thought, can give an example of how to resolve the most complex problems of today and carry out the principles and policy of detents. The Helsinki conference is a corroboration of this.

The future of the European Community of nations lies in the further deepening of the Helsinki process, despite all the difficulties and obstacles still in its way. It is important to promote the dialogue so as to achieve better mutual understanding and correctly assess each other's interests. The more often we meet and talk at various levels, the less mistrust and hostility there will be.

Naturally, there are many matters on which we disagree. Will this always be the case? In our opinion it is high time that barriers in the way of Europe-wide cooperation were removed and bridges built. These bridges may differ in design, but all of them are to serve the same purpose -- international rapprochement. What should unite us, first and foremost, is our common responsibility for peace.

Building a new Europe presupposes the development of the appropriate political and economic infrastructure which is to facilitate this endeavor. There exist several forums concerned with the problems of strengthening European security. Confidence-building measures are discussed in Stockholm, while troop and arms reduction in Central Europe are negotiated in Vienna. Representatives from the European states which took part in the Helsinki conference are to meet in 1986. The U.N. Economic Commission for Europe has an important part to play in resolving our continent's problems.

Though they have been insufficiently effective so far, measures such as these contribute to the formation of the future structure and mechanism of European security and cooperation. This structure will probably have to be modified, and new forms of political, economic and cultural cooperation sought, with European realities and the need to strengthen all-European unity taken into account.

What is the future of Europe likely to be?

The answer to this question probably lies in an analysis not only of current political but also of economic trends.

East and West

Following the 1980-82 crisis, the worst in postwar years, the capitalist economy recovered slightly. In 1985, however, growth rates slowed down again (especially in the U.S.), and American economists expect this trend to persist in 1986. The problems of unemployment and inflation confronting the member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have lost none of their acuteness. Unemployment figures have reached a postwar high (down slightly in the U.S. in 1984-85, they continue to rise in Western Europe). Over the last few years prices in OECD member countries have been going up at a rate which, though less sharp than previously, nonetheless averaged 4.5 per cent a year.

Military spending remains a heavy burden on the U.S. budget which is balanced out by a growing national debt. Half of the $200 billion deficit is covered by the influx of bank credits from abroad, which has resulted in excessively high interest on credits and in an artificially inflated dollar exchange rate. This makes imports to the U.S. (from Europe too) cheaper, and adversely affects the competitiveness of American exports. Hence the growing U.S. balance of trade and payments deficit. One an international creditor, the world's righest country has become a debtor. Taking advantage of its privileged position in the international financial and trade system, the U.S. largely buys its well-being on credit. The gap in growth rates and employment dynamics between Western Europe and the U.S. is due not so much to West European products becoming less competitive (although this is also partly the case) as to the peculiarities of the international financial mechanism.

If the financial mechanism continues to work to the advantage of the U.S. alone, there will be no avoiding an explosion which will hit all countries, West European included, very hard, indeed. Of special danger under the circumstances is the developing countries' enormous foreign debt, which has topped $1,000 billion. The solvency of these countries is most problematic; furthermore, the payment or at least, reduction of the debt is hampered by the protectionist measures taken by the U.S., Japan and the EEC.

Protectionism has assumed global proportions and is being practised in ever more refined forms. This interferes with the improvement of the world economic situation and the development of East-West relations. The use of trade sanctions and technological embargoes as a means of bringing political pressure to bear on other countries is especially to be censured. By tightening restrictions in their foreign trade, the U.S. and West European countries may lose their markets, and it hard to keep business activity up without expanding trade in all directions. Western Europe has taken up the U.S. and Japanese challenge and is bent on catching up with these two countries in vital spheres of technology. This effort may well pay off, improving prospects for economic development and helping offset negative economic processes on a global scale. East-West economic relationships in Europe should develop along the same lines.

While being affected, to a greater or lesser degree, by global economic processes and the economic situation in Western Europe, the European CMEA member states are governed by economic laws of their own and come up against entirely different problems. Thanks to annual and medium-term plans, these countries' economic development rate is steadier and more confident than that of the market economy of the West. Whereas Western Europe's annual gross domestic product grew by 2.2-2.3 per cent in 1984-85, the figure for the CMEA member states was 3.3-3.5 per cent. The Soviet Union and a number of other CMEA member states have succeeded in arresting the slowing down of their economic growth rates observed at the end of the seventies and the beginning of the eighties. The task now is to speed up development by improving economic management, making further scientific and technological progress, restructuring industry, and other measures. Investments are to grow, and the share of accumulation is to increase in the national income of countries in which it has markedly shrunk over the past few years. The retooling and modernization of industry are bound to have an increasing effect on the CMEA countries' development rate.

The plans of the European CMEA member states are linked, in large measure, with ever closer integrationist cooperation between them. They take part in major industrial, scientific and engineering projects, which are comparable with only a few similar projects in the world, such as the joint construction of oil and gas mains, power transmission lines, atomic power stations, and ore-dressing mills. Furthermore, CMEA member states practise large-scale specialization and coproduction in such fields as electronics, atomic power engineering, electrical engineering, ball-bearing manufacturing, and so on. The recent extraordinary CMEA session adopted the Comprehensive Programme of Scientific and Technological Progress of the CMEA countries for the period up to 2000. Its joint fulfilment will bring these countries onto a par with the highest international standards in the key spheres of science and technology.

Mutual Benefit

The economic situation in the capitalist and socialist worlds influences -- albeit in different ways -- the progress of business cooperation between countries of the two different systems. East-West trade constitutes a mere 3-4 per cent of the world's total. Therefore, the influence of their trade links on global economic processes is insignificant. On the other hand, these links depend to a considerable extent on the state of affairs in the West's economy and foreign trade, characterized by instability.

One should also bear in mind a certain discrepancy in the respective significance of these links for the economic development of East and West. Over the past few years socialist countries have done 26 to 30 per cent of their foreign trade with industrialized capitalist states. The proportion of West European countries in trade with the socialist world is much smaller (although they are interested in trade with socialist countries for economic and political reasons).

In the first half of the seventies, trade turnover between the European CMEA countries and the West grew fast; in the latter half of the seventies the growth slowed down considerably, and in the early eighties East-West trade stagnated. Now this trade is tending to expand again, but how lasting this tendency will be is anybody's guess.

From the angle of purely economic prerequisites and interests, growth potential is reasonably high on both sides. Given an improvement in the political climate, the West's share in the foreign trade of the CMEA member states may increase.

Although the CMEA member states have succeeded in improving the balance of payments with the West and bringing their hard-currency debt to it under control, many other important problems associated with business cooperation are still awaiting their solution. In praticular, it is necessary to improve the commodity pattern of East-West trade. Fuels, raw materials and food still predominate in the CMEA's exports to the West, accounting for 75 per cent and, specifically, of machines and equipment, a mere seven per cent. The prospects for East-West trade depend on the extent to which this pattern is improved.

As they strengthen their collective scientific and technological potential, the CMEA countries do not seek to cut themselves off from the rest of the world in the field of science and technology -- and their June 1984 economic summit reaffirmed this. It is plain that exchanges and contacts in this and many other fields are inevitable. The single most important concern of CMEA member states is invulnerability in the vital spheres of scientific and technological progress.

Intensification of economic progress will add to their import-export potential (vis-s-vis the West, in particular) and alter the pattern of supply and demand. The CMEA countries will step up the efficacy of their imports by increasing the purchases of machine systems and production lines required to retool their mechanical engineering, light and food industries, update their industrial and agricultural infrastructure and introduce industrialized methods in agriculture. The practice of building medium and small industrial plants jointly with Western companies, especially on a compensatory basis, holds good promise.

It would be useful to work out an effective reform of the international currency system, to establish normal contractual relations between the CMEA and the EEC, and take confidence-building measures in the economic sphere as well. The problems of the immunity of all countries, including those in Europe, against any disturbances in the system of world economic relations are steadily gaining in urgency. Our state calls attention to this in the United Nations.

The CMEA countries' and the CMEA Secretariat's moves to normalize relations with the EEC are prompted not so much by business motives as by the need to strengthen European security, build confidence, and gradually overcome the disunity of Europe. To date, the discrepancy in East-West trade is becoming increasingly pronounced owing to the EEC's tendency to deal with each CMEA member state individually. The CMEA is not recognised as the coordinator of its member states' activities and the protector of their interests. All proposals to sign a joint CMEA-EEC declaration providing for bilateral contacts and outlining their tentative spheres get bogged down in talks.

I am certain, however, that a secure future for Europe presupposes the intensification of integration processes not only in the East and the West, but also the extension of contacts between individual states and their communities on a continent-wide scale.

Business cooperation with socialist countries, which develop their economies according to five-year plans and long-term programmes, can bring an element of stability and strength to the foreign economic links established by Western countries, especially those in Europe.

The plans the CMEA countries have drawn up for the next five-year period (1986-90) provide a reliable point of departure for business circles interested in broadening long-term trade and economic links with the socialist countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit and in seeking new intensive forms of East-West cooperation.

U.S. REPORTEDLY PREPARING TO INTERVENE IN GULF WAR

LD191942 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- As was to be expected, the February change in the Iranian-Iraqi war, connected with the start of a new offensive by Iranian troops, has resulted in yet another step-up of Washington's military preparations in the Persian Gulf area, Konstantin Geyvandov writes in today's IZVESTIYA. U.S. General Theodore Jenes, whom THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper refers to as the one who is in charge of possible military operations in the area, toured one country of the region after another for several days. Then he held talks with Pentagon representatives. This is a symptomatic fact considering that the forces subordinated to Jenes are part of the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).

The Iranian-Iraqi war which has been going on for the sixth year now, IZVESTIYA's news analyst points out, brings innumerable hardships and suffering to the peoples of the two countries. Nevertheless, unfortunately, there is no end to the war in sight. Moreover, it more more and more markedly splashes beyond the scope of the conflict between two neighbouring states, turning into a factor of serious destabilisation in the region. The war poses a direct threat to international peace and security, since it creates a favourable ground for the realisation of the imperialist plans of the United States and of its NATO allies in the important and resources-rich Persian Gulf.

Washington immediately made use of the outbreak of the war in order to reaffirm its claims to that "zone of U.S. vital interest" and came forward with threats to intervene, in an armed way, too, to defend those "interests".

The peoples of Iran and Iraq have experienced imperialist and colonial domination. Would not it be a savage irony of fate if the conflict between these two states will now lead to a return of the armed-to-the-teeth forces of the USA, Britain and France to the regions?! An 'appropriate' pretext for interference has already been invented in Washington and other NATO capitals: protection of the safety of sea lanes and of 'friendly' countries of the Persian Gulf area.

"It is understandable, however, that the true motives of the United States 'actions are not in helping the Persian Gulf states but in asserting and consolidating its presence in the strategically important area of the world".

"There is something else. The ongoing war not only devitalises Iran and Iraq. It has also brought about a serious split in the Arab world, weakening its potential for counteracting the main threat which comes from the U.S.-Israeli 'strategic allies'", IZVESTIYA emphasises.

GILASHVILI-LED DELEGATION IN EGYPT MEETS OFFICIALS

LD201027 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo March 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Ratmir Orestov reports: A delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, led by Pavel Gilashvili, vice president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, now staying in Egypt, had a meeting with Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of the People's Assembly of the A.R.E. [Arab Republic of Egypt], and a group of deputies of the Egyptian parliament. They discussed questions of bilateral Soviet-Egyptian relations and certain international problems.

The leader of the Soviet delegation spoke of the main results of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and prospects for the social and economic development of the USSR.

Speaking at the meeting Anatoliy Mayorets, minister of Electric Power Development and Electrification of the USSR, who took part in designing and building the high Aswam Dam project, told about the state of power production in the Soviet Union and plans for its further development as well as prospects for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Sergey Losev, TASS general director, reaffirmed the Soviet Union's principled position on the Middle East problem and other international issues.

The Egyptian parliamentarians spoke highly of the Soviet Union's assistance in the socio-economic development of Egypt after the revolution of 1952. It was pointed out that the high Aswan Dam remains a symbol of friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The smooth operation of this hydropower project, its high productivity and seismic stability have defeated all attempts by the enemies of Soviet-Egyptian friendship to find fault with the project. It was the Aswan Dam, a deputy stressed, that saved Egypt from the severe drought that hit a number of regions of Africa in recent years. Other economic projects, built with Soviet assistance, are also of inestimable help to Egypt. Mention was made of traditional ties between the USSR and Egypt in the field of culture, past exchanges of folklore groups, delegations of writers and film-makers. Members of the People's Assembly spoke gratefully of the participation of Soviet specialists in the development of Egyptian ballet, theatre and modern music. A deputy of parliament, one of the 1,500 Egyptian scientists who graduated from Soviet schools and who were awarded scientific degrees there, said that cooperation with the Soviet Union in the field of science and education and the training of Egyptian students in the Soviet Union are of great importance to Egypt.

The two sides expressed mutual desire to expand parliamentary ties between the Soviet Union and Egypt and to develop cooperation in different fields.

COMMENTARY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF KUWAIT

PM191623 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Shevchenko dispatch: "Everyday Life in Kuwait"]

[Text] Kuwait -- Kuwait recently celebrated a quarter of a century of independence. The thousands of varicolored bulbs which burn on an evening in the capital alongside the neon advertising signs mark the festivities.

Kuwait has traveled a long way in past years -- it has turned from a medieval principality into a dynamically developing modern state. This has been possible thanks to the colossal oil deposits concealed beneath its surface. It is difficult to say what the fate of this small Arab country would have been if the underground reserves of black gold had not been discovered.

The oil boom destroyed a patriarchal way of life and stepped up the social and political processes taking place in Kuwaiti society.

Aware that oil is its main source of wealth, the Kuwaiti Government set about making rational use of its reserves of black gold, establishing national sovereignty over the country's national reserves. People here consider that Kuwait has the world's third-largest oil reserves. But those reserves are finite, and in 1977 a so-called "fund for future generations," which regularly receives 10 percent of oil sales revenue, was set up to ensure for the future. The fund's resources cannot be used until the beginning of the 21st century. Realistic Kuwaitis, however, appreciate that this is no way out of their situation. They regard the basic strategy for developing the country and ensuring its viability as consisting in the creation of its own industrial base.

On a trip to the Al-Shu'aybah oil region south of the capital I was able to see for myself how seriously resolving the question is being approached in Kuwait. The steel structures of oil-refining and chemical enterprises and plants producing fertilizers, glass, asphalt, and auto tires are to be seen not far from the sea shore. One of the world's largest oil refining complexes, fitted with the most modern equipment, was ceremonially commissioned this year in the port of Ahmadi, near Al-Shu'aybah.

In their progress along the path of economic development the Kuwaitis are encountering serious difficulties. These are primarily bound up with the lack of local manpower. The native population of Kuwait accounts for only just over 40 percent of around 1.7 million people living there, the rest being made up of foreigners, mainly immigrants from Arab countries, India, and Pakistan. There are also many South Korean contract workers. The government has now elaborated and is implementing an extensive program to train national cadres.

People in Kuwait are well aware that the successful development of the country and the maintenance of control over natural resources are possible only in conditions of international security and lasting peace in the region. That is why immediately after obtaining independence the Kuwaiti Government began pursuing a policy of positive neutrality aimed at relaxing tension and establishing mutually beneficial relations with diverse countries, irrespective of their sociopolitical system.

Kuwait also maintains friendly ties with our country. The strengthening of those ties is helped by the fact that both countries' stances in resolving key present-day problems coincide in many respect. Kuwaitis broadly approve the Soviet initiatives to improve the international situation, secure disarmament, resolve the Middle East crisis, and strengthen security in the Persian Gulf region.

Soviet-Kuwaiti economic cooperation is developing fruitfully. The recent visit to our country by Kuwaiti Oil Affairs Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah and his meetings with Soviet leaders have given a new boost to the expansion of business ties in various spheres. The local press has given a high assessment of the results of the talks on economic questions in Moscow, which, as the press here notes, should promote a high level of Soviet-Kuwaiti political relations.

In the past the Kuwaitis were famous as fine navigators who could skillfully steer their ships along a true course in bad weather. Kuwait today is overcoming its difficulties, advancing toward its goal according to charted reference points.

PAPER SAYS EGYPTIAN UNREST STEMS FROM ECONOMIC ILLS

PM191016 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Mar 86 p 3

[TASS correspondent V. Yefremov dispatch for SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA: "Cairo: A Grave Legacy"]

[Text] Cairo -- Life in Cairo is virtually back to normal. But the traces of fire on buildings along Al-Ahram Street and the broken restaurant and night club signs still bring to mind the recent unrest by subunits of the internal security forces.

The armored personnel carriers and the tanks have disappeared, but the causes of these tragic events have remained. According to the official version, the reason for the disturbances was rumors that service in the internal security forces would be extended by 1 year. But, as the opposition press points out, the real causes are rooted in the acute socioeconomic crisis being experienced by Egypt. The country officially has more than 100 billionaires and tens of thousands of millionaires, while 40 percent of the population virtually lack the basic means for existence.

This contrast is particularly noticeable along the streets of Cairo, where hundreds of thousands of poor people are huddled together in slums and in the crypts of the "city of the dead," only a stone's throw away from the neon signs of supermarkets, stores, restaurants, luxury mansions, and equally luxurious limousines.

The highly acute housing and food crisis and the problem of providing work for the millions of unemployed are being aggravated by the fast growing population. Egypt's population, now standing at 49 million, increases by an additional million every 10 months. The country consumes more than it produces, and it buys more than it sells. Egypt is languishing beneath the burden of debts amounting to $25 billion, in other words more than the country produces in 1 year. Interest payments alone will be $3 billion this year. Egypt is forced to incur new debts in order to meet these payments. What was it that led to this situation?

The country's present leadership inherited a grave legacy from former President Al-Sadat. His "open door" policy led to the collapse of the Egyptian economy's state sector and to stagnation in industry and agriculture. External debts increased more than tenfold, and the trade and payments deficit rose severalfold. Economically and politically, Egypt found itself firmly dependent on foreign credits, primarily from the United States.

The tense socioeconomic situation became explosive. Egypt's new president, H. Mubarak, who came to power following Al-Sadat's inglorious death in 1981, perceived the need for profound changes and took a number of steps to overcome the prevailing situation. Certain measures are being implemented to provide food for the poorest strata of the population and to solve the housing problem. Even though emergency laws have remained in force in the country since 1981, political life has been somewhat liberalized and the activity of opposition parties has been allowed. The country's leadership is striving to revive the leading role of the state sector as the basis of Egypt's economic development. Measures are planned to boost agriculture. Attempts are being made to make the private sector's activity more productive and to utilize the capital of Western firms, which have operated virtually without any controls since Al-Sadat's time, in the interests of the development of Egypt's national economy. Egypt is also taking a more independent stance in the international arena.

Nevertheless, many of the aforementioned measures are not always consistently implemented, and the Western creditors and the interests of Egypt's big bourgeoisie are borne in mind. Both external forces, primarily the United States and Israel, and domestic ones, opposed to this more independent course of the country's present leadership and interested in weakening it, are highly influential and actively oppose the independent course. All this goes to considerably diminish the effect of the measures being implemented by the Egyptian authorities and hinders the solution of problems that are acute and vitally important for Egyptian society. Yet these problems must be solved as soon as possible. The police riot only served to confirm this again.

SACP'S SLOVO ADDRESSES MOSCOW CONFERENCE

MB041053 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Moscow State University hosted a conference for the faculty and students with visiting foreign delegations attending the 27th CPSU Congress in Moscow. Please listen to an address by Joe Slovo, chairman of the South African Communist Party [SACP], at this conference.

[Begin Slovo recording in English fading into Zulu translation] On behalf of the SACP, I have brought the warmest and fraternal greetings to the 27th CPSU Congress. Our presence here demonstrates the high esteem the SACP has achieved. This congress is without precedent not only in the lives of Soviet citizens, but also in the lives of all internationalists committed to the achievement of peace and harmony in world affairs.

The agenda of the congress deals with issues that affect mankind as a whole. We can state without fear of contradiction that the resolutions presented at this congress encompass all areas of activity concerned with the survival of life on this planet. The mere fact that 40 years have passed without an outbreak of a major world war shows clearly that the internationalist policies of the USSR and its socialist allies of preserving and promoting international peace and security have been an outstanding success. It is however true that there are still some elements in this world that are bent on provoking another world war in an effort to topple the socialist states of the world. Such machinations are definitely cursed.

Socialist countries stand for the promotion and preservation of peace from the international warmongers and the promotion of the workers' welfare in a solidly strong and wealthy worker-controlled state. It is quite clear that peace and security are essential of human existence in this world. The success of Soviet foreign policy in the pursuit of international peace has reached unprecedented heights and is frequently discussed in the leading capitals of the world. It assures the total prevention of wars in the future. The public announcement by the CPSU general secretary on 15 January 1986 described in clear terms the procedural phases for nuclear and nonnuclear weapons reduction in the world, so that by year 2000 such weaponry would not exist. That announcement was an affirmation of the Soviet intent to halt the arms race and safeguard international peace and security for all nations.

The international community should unite its efforts in order to make this wonderful dream of humanity -- that the 21st century will be a century characterized by the absence of nuclear weapons -- a reality. The arms race consumes tremendous amounts of the concerned governments' budgets, and in this manner condemns millions of Africans to a state of perpetual poverty, ignorance, starvation, and sickness. This is the reason why the African people cannot stand aside from the campaign for international peace and the halting of the arms race. The campaign coincides with their deep-rooted aspirations. We believe that the issue of international peace and security requires solid and sober deliberations among all concerned parties, especially the communist parties and the workers. It is the hotest issue of our times.

Brothers and sisters, all humanity knows that South Africa is going through a revolution. The present rulers of South Africa are faced with very difficult problems. The apartheid regime is in danger of collapse, as the political and economic situation in South Africa deteriorates.

The leading capitalist of the world, the U.S. Government, has adopted a strategy of constructive engagement with Pretoria regime in an attempt to save the RSA Government from ultimate destruction. On the one hand, the United States tries to pressure Botha to polish up the image of apartheid through sham political reforms, in order to protect and preserve Western economic interests in South Africa. On the other hand, the same United States tries to force the ANC [African National Congress] to cease and desist from further pursuit of the armed struggle, to stop its campaign for freedom in South Africa, to terminate its ties with socialist countries, and divorce itself from the SACP. However, Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC's president, has unreservedly stated that the SACP is one of the pillars in the pursuit of the freedom struggle in South Africa. We believe quite strongly that there is not capitalist ploy that can ever succeed in dividing the unity of the liberation struggle in South Africa. The thrust of the capitalists is to separate the ANC from its true friends.

Brothers and sisters, this year the SACP, Marx and Lenin's brainchild and the first and oldest communist party in Africa, will observe its 65th anniversary. We state with pride that in all those years, the SACP members have fought valiantly for freedom and justice for all the people of South Africa, irrespective of race, national origin, color, or creed. As happened elsewhere during revolutionary change, the SACP uses all the tactics gained in previous revolutions, paying particular attention to the lessons of Great October Revolution of 1917 in Russia. The SACP provides inspiration and wise counsel to the masses. The success of Lenin in 1917 is our political model. Lenin's success in creating the first socialist state in the world, the USSR, had ramifications that were felt worldwide. This workers' state would not have been possible without the guidance of the CPSU to the Soviet people.

We sincerely believe that the 27th CPSU Congress will go down in the pages of history as an outstanding step in the evolutionary path of the socialist state. We wish it all the success. Finally, I would like to conclude by noting two important issues that affect humanity very seriously: the promotion and safeguarding of international peace and security and the continued evolution of the socialist state, the future hope of mankind. Long live the CPSU. Long live the CPSU's concern and love for humanity, especially the workers. Long live the workers state.

CPSU ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO MALAGASY PARTY

LD191150 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution [AREMA] Central Committee

Dear comrades! The CPSU Central Committee sends to the AREMA Central Committee ardent greetings and congratulations on the 10th anniversary of AREMA's formation. Your party, together with the other anti-imperialist and revolutionary-democratic forces, is heading the struggle for Madagascar's development along the path of national independence and social progress and takes a resolute stance for the preservation and strengthening of peace on earth. People in the Soviet Union highly value AREMA's efforts aimed at strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties, countries, and peoples.

We wish AREMA's leadership and all its aktiv members successes in the work to implement the principles of the Malagasy socialist revolution's charter in the interests of the people of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

The CPSU Central Committee

'NEW' U.S. PLAN TO DESTABILIZE NICARAGUA NOTED

LD220955 Moscow TASS in English 0832 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Managua March 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin reports: The USA has got down to a new plan of destabilizing the situation in Nicaragua's Atlantic coast inhabited by the native population of the country. As was reported at a press conference held here by Salvador Perez, a representative of the Ministry of the Interior, the United States seeks to hamper the return of Indians to their native lands, to thwart the process of negotiations on granting them autonomy, to open a new front on the frontier with Honduras, to form in the Atlantic zone the so-called provisional government made of leaders of some counter-revolutionary groups.

The CIA makes stake on the KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous People] organization into which Nicaraguan Indians were drawn by force or deception. KISAN established a network of camps in the area of the frontier Rio Coco River with the support of the U.S. espionage agency and the Somoza group "Nicaraguan Democratic Forces" based in Honduras. Those camps are supplied with American weapons by air. Flights of trespasser planes have become more frequent of late in the Vazpan, Leimus and other areas.

Counter-revolutionary bases were also formed in Honduran territory, American military advisers have become frequent visitors of the Mocoron base these days. Experts from the Pentagon, participating in Cabanas-86 exercises in Honduras, have got down to driving highways to the Nicaraguan frontier. Artillery guns installed by them are trained on the territory of Nicaragua.

More than a thousand counter-revolutionaries are undergoing intensive training under the direction of CIA's advisers in one of the areas of Honduras. Their task is to penetrate into zones where Nicaraguan indians live and stage a number of terroristic actions. Commando groups also plan to lay mines in the vicinities of the indian settlement of Vazpan, Leimus, Bismuna and attack Nicaraguan frontier posts.

VAGRIS, DELEGATION MEET VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT

LD191546 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0930 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Caracas, 19 Mar (TASS) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has received a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Y. Vagris, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is on an official visit here at the invitation of the country's congress. Vagris handed the Venezuelan president a message from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

An exchange of opinions took place on some of the most important international problems and on questions concerning bilateral relations. During the conversation, the head of the Soviet delegation set out the USSR's position on disarmament issues, primarily the elimination of nuclear weapons and prevention of the militarization of space.

Lusinchi noted that he fully shares the USSR's concern for the destiny of the world and had learned with interest of Soviet proposals aimed at improving the international situation. He voiced anxiety over the developing countries' growing foreign debt. The president noted with satisfaction the favorable development of Venezuelan-Soviet relations, and spoke in favor of their being further expanded. The meeting was attended by Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi.